Wooster Magazine: Fall 2019

Caitlin Paynich

The College of Wooster

Follow this and additional works at: https://openworks.wooster.edu/wooalumnimag_2011-present

Recommended Citation

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Wooster Magazine at Open Works, a service of The College of Wooster Libraries. It has been accepted for inclusion in Wooster Magazine: 2011-Present by an authorized administrator of Open Works. For more information, please contact openworks@wooster.edu.
Eyeing London through the Wooster Lens
Students broaden their perspectives on theatre and culture

Also Inside
Global Careers: Model UN Alumni and Military Alumni of Wooster share their experiences
2019 Annual Report
“Our mission calls us to prepare leaders of character and influence...”

- President Bolton, page 2

“I decided then that I wanted to be an archaeologist, and my aspirations have not changed since.”

- Benton Thompson IV ’22, page 22

Hear from the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients.

pages 56-57
Features

3 Serving College and Country
Military Alumni of Wooster come together to connect and build network.

10 Eyeing London through the Wooster Lens
Eight students experience new perspectives on theatre, culture.

16 Inspiring Impactful Global Careers
Alumni from Wooster’s popular Model UN program share where they are now.

22 Field Experience
APEX Fellowship in Italy provides intensive training in archaeology.

26 Annual Report

Oak Grove

28 News Briefs
Athletics
Office Hours
Word from Wooster

Tartan Ties

32 Class Notes
On the calendar
Scot Volunteer:
John Wilson ’78
Alumni Profile:
Sunny Mitra ’16

Distinguished Alumni
Macharia Kamau ’82
Patricia Vittum ’74
Alumni Weekend 2019
In Memoriam
Q&A: Favorite Spots

On the cover: While in London for a Wooster TREK, students majoring in theatre as well as in other areas, pose with a mural of Shakespeare painted near the Globe Theatre where they had the opportunity to take a backstage tour. Read more about what they learned on page 10. Photo provided by Jimmy Noriega.
Preparing students for lives of purpose

Wooster’s promise is timeless and powerful. But the world our students will enter is changing extraordinarily fast in ways that profoundly affect how we learn, think, work, and connect. To meet our mission for the future—to prepare students to make an outside impact in their communities and to address the most important challenges of the coming decades—we need to evolve.

The challenges of the future will certainly demand the learning that comes through the liberal arts and independent study, but they will also require collaborative work of groups with diverse perspectives and the ability to synthesize multiple ways of knowing. Connection—across disciplines, individuals, teams, cultures, and differences—will be more important than ever.

We are excited to launch Connect, Create, Discover, a new strategic plan for Wooster. Our plan emerges from conversations with faculty, staff, and students, as well as alumni. Throughout our process, we asked how we can build from our strengths to inspire young people from across the U.S. and around the world to come to the College, and to ensure that our students learn, thrive, grow, and graduate ready for lives of purpose in a globally interconnected society.

Here are our central themes:

Create a vibrant, welcoming, and strongly-woven campus community.
We bring students to Wooster from across the country and around the world because the learning they do by making meaning together—in residence and dining halls as well as classrooms, studios, and playing fields—shapes the lives they lead. We are strengthening advising, mentoring, opportunities for student involvement and connection, and the “first community” that welcomes students in the residence halls. And, we are thrilled to announce plans for a major renovation to the heart of student life—Lowry Center!

Grow our internationality, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
Wooster was founded on the bold principle that excellence in education requires people with many experiences, traditions, cultures, and perspectives learning together. We are proud to be one of the most diverse and international campuses in our region, with increasing diversity among faculty and staff, and students from more than 60 countries. Our diverse campus community—comprised of more than 40 percent U.S. students of color and international students—is one of our greatest assets. We will continue to build and celebrate it, as well as enhance our capacity for respectful dialog and understanding so people of all races, ethnicities, nationalities, faiths, sexual orientations, gender identities and socioeconomic circumstances can learn from one another’s experiences, enjoy each other’s company and thrive.

Build on our history of excellence in the liberal arts and support strategic new academic pathways and connections.
We have begun bridging across traditional fields to enable new areas of study that are compelling to students and faculty, and that provide innovative approaches to important questions. We have founded new majors in environmental geoscience, education, environmental studies, and statistical and data science, and will advance ways to help students connect and apply their learning.

Deepen and make more universal connections between learning in the classroom and engagement with the campus, local community, and the world.
Our mission calls us to prepare leaders of character and influence, so we must provide an education that is globally engaged and locally grounded, rich in opportunities for collaboration, civic engagement, and leadership. We will build on the success of APEX to ensure that every student makes real connections between all they learn on campus and the work they can do in the world, both when they graduate and over a lifetime.

Sarah R. Bolton
President

For more information about our new strategic plan, we invite you to explore wooster.edu/strategic-plan.
Military Alumni of Wooster come together to connect and build network

By Caitlin Paynich

Even before graduating from The College of Wooster, Ethan Flack ’14 had decided on joining the military after completing his degree. A political science major, he had an interest in security strategy and policy as it related to the war on terrorism, but he didn’t know in what capacity he wanted to serve. “There weren’t a lot of people entering the military or resources available in the Wooster community,” he said.
While enrolled at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University through the Reserve Officer Training Corps, he completed his Master of Public Administration degree before his commission as an officer in the U.S. Army. As a graduate student, he worked as a research assistant for the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse and studied the structures schools were putting in place to support veterans on campus. He knew several other graduates like him from his time at Wooster who were serving in various parts of the military after graduation, and he wanted to help the College offer resources to students and alumni affiliated with the military.

Now an infantry officer and rifle platoon leader in the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum in New York, 1st Lt. Flack is acting as a catalyst to bring together alumni with those affiliations from all generations. Partnering with Wooster’s Office of Alumni and Family Engagement, he began to reach out by email to friends he knew and names provided by the College to bring alumni serving in different branches of the military and veterans together to form an affinity group called Military Alumni of Wooster. As he connected with other alumni, Flack found that many shared his enthusiasm for the idea of a community of military alumni. “It’s hugely impactful for grads from the 90s and 2000s to be able to connect with other military alumni who graduated in the 80s, 70s, 60s and so on,” said Lt. Cmdr. Matt Anderson ’99, U.S. Coast Guard. “Being able to connect through the affinity group opens up a whole network of people that have so much wisdom, experience, and insights to offer. People are very enthusiastically catching up with each other, with classmates who hadn’t been in touch. Not only do we have more alumni than we first thought, but it’s a vibrant group interested in communicating with and helping each other out.”

In addition to igniting these connections among alumni and with the college, Military Alumni of Wooster hopes to act as a resource for students who express interest in opportunities available through the military. While serving in the military is often inspired through a combination of motivations from patriotism and a desire to serve others to an interest in unique experiences around the world and in leadership, Flack sees this community as a touchpoint for students to learn more and engage with the military. “We can offer insights into military service, its culture, and communicate with them about the opportunities that the military may provide.”

“We wanted to create a support system within the Wooster community for veterans and their families.”

-1st Lt. Ethan Flack ’14, U.S. Army
“Not only do we have more alumni than we first thought, but it's a vibrant group interested in communicating with each other and helping each other out.”
-Lt. Cmdr. Matt Anderson ’99, U.S. Coast Guard

Dispelling misperceptions
Today, Flack and others engaged with the group recognize that attitudes about the military are greatly influenced by the current culture. “We've gotten into what I call the Hollywood perception of the military,” said Lt. Cmdr. Jennifer Jones ’79, U.S. Navy, retired. “Unlike during World War I or World War II, the percentage of people that actually go and fight and kill like they show in the movies is very small.” Finding serving in the military a non-traditional opportunity for women in the 1980s, Jones wanted to be “hands-on.” On her first tour she transferred into the firefighting division of the Fleet Training Group in Yokosuka, Japan, training shipboard crews to fight fires and handle emergencies while underway. “The firefighting hose is a powerful beast when it's charged, and they thought for sure I was going to run into the office, but I didn't. They didn't think I could hang with them, but, of course, I could. I was pumped up as much as they were.” Later, Jones served as an operations officer on the U.S.S. Flint underway with the Independence Battlegroup in the Indian Ocean and remembers receiving the call when Kuwait was invaded in August 1990. “You train and train for what your mission is, but then when it’s right there in front of you, it’s jarring to know that your country is actually becoming involved in a war environment,” she said. “It’s a pretty eye-opening experience.”

As Peter Van Hartesveldt ’85, who retired as a commander in the U.S. Navy’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps explained, “It’s not just about flying a plane or carrying a rifle. There’s a huge diversity of things that people do in the military. Law is just one of them. There are doctors, dentists, administrators of all kinds, support jobs, intelligence, foreign language specialists, and the list goes on.” Van Hartesveldt, who spent 13 years on active duty, gained key experiences early in his career. The Navy “kept offering interesting places to go,” he said, including serving on aircraft carriers and trying cases in Bahrain; Cannes, France; and three years in Naples, Italy. “I was doing trial work months after
joining up and in the civilian world that can take years. I had a lot of responsibility quite quickly, not just as a trial lawyer but as a staff judge advocate.”

**Prepared for anything**

Like other Wooster graduates, alumni in the military find that their education at Wooster prepared them well for the work they do now. “Wooster encourages students to have independent thoughts,” said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Bowie ’08, a general surgery resident at Naval Medical Center in San Diego. “The experience made me open to exploring other possibilities as far as where I would go after med school.” Bowie, who completed his Independent Study working alongside an endocrinologist at Cleveland Clinic said his experience with research left him feeling “ahead of the curve” while completing a year of research as part of his residency. “I.S. led me to be a well-rounded leader,” he said. “The leadership you have to show in your project leads you to be able to help direct other people to do the same thing in their own lives and their careers.”

After numerous shipboard and intelligence assignments, Anderson’s current duties are at the Coast Guard National Command Center at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C., where he monitors global maritime threats and U.S. Coast Guard operations worldwide in order to inform the Commandant, the service’s senior leadership, and the departments of Homeland Security and Defense. He says the critical thinking skills and ability to see from different perspectives that he relies on today first developed as an art history and philosophy double major at Wooster. “It was impossible for us to think about French Impressionism without also thinking about what it meant about French identity in the 1800s, the massive urbanization that was happening, or France’s relationship with its colonies,” Anderson said. “Rather than pigeon hole yourself into a specialty, you learn to apply critical thinking to everything. As an officer especially, you have to be able to treat problems as broad general problems and help lead others.” His experiences in the classroom challenged him to “apply what we learned in the real world and think about how it affects other people.” This idea of “being a citizen” and “thinking about the role of the citizen in society” inspired him to have a positive impact on other people. “That was phenomenally helpful towards being a military leader,” he said.

The ability to think critically and draw on the broad experience of a liberal arts education also supported Reggie Williams ’63 when he was assigned to electronics school after joining the U.S. Air Force in 1962 during the Vietnam War. “I was able to pick my service before the service picked me,” said Williams, a biology major. “I always felt like I had the right education to handle whatever came up.” He noted that exchanging knowledge with his peers at Wooster “broadened our range of knowledge. It makes you much more agile and flexible in the things you can do in the future, and there’s a confidence that goes with that that leads to success.” Williams, who retired as a colonel in 1990, spent most of his time in the service at the Strategic Air Command Headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, and at the Pentagon, particularly in research and

“It’s not just about flying a plane or carrying a rifle. There’s a huge diversity of things that people do in the military.”

-Cmdr. Peter Van Hartesveldt ’85, U.S. Navy, retired
development which at the time included studying intelligence assets, Navistar (now known as GPS) and working with astronauts. He found his experiences as a student athlete at Wooster also applied toward his experience in the military. “There’s nothing about leadership that you can’t spot in a person playing the game. Football taught me how to handle adversity, to give it your all when you thought you had no more to give. It taught me that you don’t do things because of yourself, you do them because of how you feel about your team members. In the military, it’s the same thing. You don’t want to let your teammates or airmen down. I’m grateful for everything it taught me.”

Also a football player during his time at Wooster, economics major Jeff Zorn ’68 received a draft notice and volunteered to join the Marines like other “Delts” or fraternity members from his time at Wooster. After Officer Candidate School, Lt. Zorn served as a rifle platoon commander in Vietnam. Though undermanned and patrolling and ambushing with squad members with less experience, he “gave squad leaders some initiative to look at the terrain and make a decision about what they’d want to do,” he said, recognizing that the same discipline he relied on when completing his I.S. at Wooster carried over into his experiences as a marine. “Attention to detail is important,” he said. Being able to do research translated to “putting together plans in combat including operations, logistics, and communication, and addressing food and medical needs.” Zorn earned a Bronze Star for meritorious service in Vietnam and went on to serve as a nuclear weapons security officer. In 1979, he was chosen as the Marine Military Aide to President Carter, carrying “the football”—the briefcase containing the codes for the country’s nuclear weapon systems, and at the president’s side for everything from jogs along the canal in D.C. to escorting the first lady at a state dinner. “You have to be really flexible. You go from being at war in combat to being a nice guy, even holding babies for people who want their picture taken with the president.” After 13 years in the Marines, and also completing his MBA in Switzerland, Zorn built a career in international business management and found his military training and experiences helped qualify him for work in Saudi Arabia and other countries in the Middle East and Africa.

“The military is pretty unique,” said Flack, explaining the level of trust and responsibility he’s taken on early in his career. “You function in a dynamic real-world environment that is not easily replicated. You’re responsible for people...
and their livelihood as officers.” He credits the broad base of knowledge he gained at Wooster for “providing context to more things,” adding, “critical thinking, and the ability to read and write at a high level have given me the skills to approach things in a different manner than some of my peers in the army.”

Military Alumni of Wooster

In connecting alumni from Wooster with similar experiences, “We wanted to create a support system within the Wooster community for veterans and their families,” Flack said. Some of the goals of Military Alumni of Wooster include creating networking opportunities for alumni serving in different branches and bringing people in the community together for events or volunteer opportunities, as well as re-engaging and recognizing military alumni who’d previously been disconnected from the College. “Alumni from the Vietnam and the Gulf War era successfully served our nation and can provide younger generations with much needed mentorship professionally regardless of the profession they pursue,” Flack said. “Some veterans are not as inclined to engage with the College because of the lingering effects of the Vietnam era. Wooster was a formative experience, and we want all alumni to feel like they have a space to return to and encourage those people who are not engaged to re-evaluate that relationship, come back to campus for events, contribute to the endowment, and in general, be a part of the alumni community.”

With many Military Alumni of Wooster currently on active duty or deployed, much of the initial communication has been electronic and leaders of the group are still working to find ways to bring the group together for events, community service projects, connecting with current students, and more. “We’re grateful to Ethan for his passion for rousing this community at Wooster and helping the College to reconnect with alumni who hadn’t been in contact with their alma mater,” said Tom McArthur, assistant vice president for alumni and family engagement. “We’ve really enjoyed seeing alumni bond over their common experiences as students and in the service and come together to support one another as a community. We’re looking forward to seeing this community continue to take shape at Wooster.”

To learn more about Military Alumni of Wooster, to sign up for the newsletter, or become involved, contact Sharon Rice, associate director of alumni engagement at srice@wooster.edu.
Scholarship Named for Vietnam Veterans

For Pete Van Hartesveldt ’85, who served 13 years on active duty as a Judge Advocate for the U.S. Navy and 13 years in the reserves, retiring as a commander, his time in the military was “an opportunity to travel, to serve [his] country, and to gain immediate trial experience,” he said. He found the work very satisfying both when defending individual clients under courts-martial and prosecuting cases to ensure fair outcomes.

After the death of his father, a World War II veteran, Van Hartesveldt and his wife Allison (Parker) ’85 wanted to make a gift to Wooster that would support military families. His father benefited from the G.I. Bill and built a successful law career before sending his son to Wooster. Van Hartesveldt considers himself a secondary beneficiary of the Bill and wanted to help students from military families make up the difference between the funds provided by the Bill and the cost of Wooster tuition. Through conversations with Ethan Flack, a facilitator of the Military Alumni of

Blough attended The College of Wooster from 1963-65 and played varsity basketball. Enlisting in the Army in 1966, he volunteered for duty in Vietnam and was assigned to the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, as a Specialist-4, Medical NCO. He was killed by small arms fire while participating in a search and destroy mission near Saigon in 1967. He was the first College of Wooster man to die in Vietnam. Flesher, a history major, member of the Concert Choir, and Seventh Section at Wooster, chose to enlist in the U.S. Army after attending the Union Theological Seminary in New York City. Leaving for Vietnam in November 1967 he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, and was killed in action in Quang Tri during the 1968 Tet Offensive.

Named for the two men, Van Hartesveldt established the Flesher-Blough Yellow Ribbon Endowed Scholarship to support students enrolled in the Veteran’s Administration’s Yellow Ribbon Scholarship Program, a provision of the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill that offers additional education funds for veterans and their families. “I hope that the scholarship makes it easier to fund their four years at Wooster,” Van Hartesveldt said. “These students are a great addition to the Wooster community.”

Robert Blough ’66
Russell Flesher ’63

Ravenal / Harteveldt

Pete ’85 and Allison (Parker) ’85
Van Hartesveldt
Photo provided by Van Hartesveldt.
Experiencing live theatre productions and breaking them down provides a different, deeper perspective compared to studying the text in the classroom. That’s what eight Wooster students found when they had the opportunity to travel to London this summer on a Wooster TREK program. “In this course we’re all students watching the same live performance,” said Jimmy A. Noriega, associate professor of theatre and dance. “Each of us watches the play as an individual in the audience, and when we come together for a class discussion, I get to tell them how I experienced it, they tell me how they experienced it, and together we talk about the performances and our interpretations in an exciting way.”

Led by Wooster faculty, TREKS, short for Think, Research, Engage, Know, allow Wooster students to learn through experiences outside the classroom and earn credit while traveling with other Wooster students. In this case, Noriega brought together theatre and non-theatre majors to experience London, one of the world’s leading theatre cities. “London is accessible for students as first-time visitors or seasoned travelers,” said Noriega, who also traveled with six students on the London TREK in 2018. “It’s great to expose them to professional and alternative theatre. Whether they want to be actors, performers, directors, playwrights, or designers, they see various theatre spaces and different types of professional theatre being created. Students who are not going into performance learn how to be good audience members and about the importance of art in our society.”

For Catherine Fiorito ’20, a communication studies major who had “never traveled across the pond before,” traveling with a band of Wooster students made the experience as comfortable as her experiences on campus. “It’s the same comforting welcome you come to expect at Wooster,” she said. “The structure of the trip was outlined for us. We didn’t have to find places to stay; our Tube cards were ready for us, but we had the time and freedom to do the things that were on our list while we were in London.” Fiorito and her fellow students in the class
also benefited from the support of the Yamazaki Experiential Travel Fund. The fund, created by Jane (Welton) ’64 and Russell ’64 Yamazaki in celebration of their 50th Wooster reunion, supports learning experiences in the form of off-campus study with an initial gift that the couple plans to add to through a bequest in their estate that will allow the fund to grow and continue to support future students. 
“The trip ended up being more affordable for me because of the funding provided to students,” said Fiorito. “Having never been abroad before, it was a unique experience. Traveling with eight familiar faces made it more enjoyable and the planning and organization was outstanding.”

Attending theatrical productions at famous venues like Shakespeare’s Globe Theatre, The National Theatre, and The Swan in Stratford-upon-Avon, as well as smaller independent theatre spaces, gave students a broad view of “theatre-going experiences they might not be exposed to in the U.S.,” said Noriega. “Students have a preconceived idea of what British theatre should look like. Once we get there, we break that down, and they see alternative and small theatre spaces and are introduced to works about diverse, multicultural, and international issues such as Britain’s history with colonialism.”

Jordan Heusner-Wilkinson ’19, who attended this year for the second time as a teaching apprentice, appreciated seeing “the amount of work it takes to put on professional productions” as opposed to plays produced in school settings. “You get the chance to see how ‘real’ professional theatre operates, the work that goes into plays, tours, sets, etc.” Her interest in theatre is behind the scenes, particularly dramaturgy, which she describes as a “research-based field that helps writers, producers, actors, and those involved in the production by researching characters, the setting, or the topic of the production.” The TREK included four backstage tours either before or after sitting in the audience. “I’ve never really liked Shakespeare’s ‘The Taming of the Shrew’ but going backstage the next day showed me the amount of work that went into the sets, costumes, lighting and stage management and added to my appreciation,” said Heusner-Wilkinson. She found the plays they saw often had connections to the political environment and had undertones of colonization that also added to her interest. In London, “they are more willing to talk about race and colonization and their part in it,” she said. “I appreciate open conversations about race. Theatre has a powerful way of opening up your experience and the experiences of others to communicate different opinions.”

While seeing traditional British icons like this red telephone box in Stratford-upon-Avon (top left), the students took time for reflecting and discussion in the classroom (bottom left) on the plays they saw as well as the backstage tours like these at National Theatre (top right) and Warner Bros. Studio where the Harry Potter films were made (bottom right).
Understanding the cultural and historical references took some research on the students’ parts explained Brian Luck ’22: “There were moments where everyone in the audience would laugh except us. You had to know the British history and culture to understand.” With an interest in directing and character development, Luck enjoyed seeing so many plays in different theatre spaces and how they were put together, and the trip solidified his decision to become a theatre major. “We learned how to be good audience members,” he said. “I’m not going to like every play I study, but I can appreciate it for what it’s trying to accomplish and the motivation behind writing it. Understanding how audiences perceive theatre is really important for directors so they can plan for how they want audience members to see their shows.”

At the end of the TREK, each of the students presented about something they learned throughout their experience in London. “The diversity of what we each took away was very interesting to see,” said Luck. Fiorito, focusing on her interest in marketing, said, “I created a research question about the way Shakespeare plays were advertised by different theatres.” She explained that the Globe Theatre focused its advertising on assuring audiences that every play offered the Shakespeare experience while the Royal Shakespeare Company advertised each play to stand out. “It was something I noticed that I got to dig deeper into and reflect on,” she said. “We learned a lot through discussion and seeing everyone’s perspectives on how they interpreted the trip.”

When they weren’t seeing plays or discussing them as a class, students on the TREK also went on a number of classic London excursions including Westminster Abbey, the Tower of London, the British Museum, and the Trooping of the Colour, marking the official birthday of Queen Elizabeth II, as well as a trip to the Warner Bros. Studio where the Harry Potter films were made. They even studied “tourism as performance,” explained Luck. “The TREK also encompassed how people perform in different spaces, how functional spaces have been set up as tourist destinations. For example, Westminster Abbey, a church and burial space, has planned paths marked for spectators.” Drawing this type of conclusion is something Fiorito has come to call “thinking with the ‘Wooster lens,’ analyzing things more, having conversations, critical thinking about what messages mean; they’re very Wooster things to be thinking.”

Burke, Dryden and Merillat examine an interactive display during a behind the scenes look at Stratford-upon-Avon, known as the birthplace of Shakespeare (top left). They also took the London Underground or “the Tube” to places like the London Bridge (bottom left) and Westminster Abbey (right).
Inspiring Impactful Global Careers

Alumni from Wooster’s popular Model UN program share where they are now

By Hugh Howard
Seventy students jammed into a Kauke Hall classroom last fall, each with hopes of standing out (in the most diplomatic way possible) as they tried out for one of Wooster’s most popular teams: Model UN. Participation is at an all-time high, according to Kent Kille, the faculty adviser since 2000 and a professor of political science. But why the surge?

Kille said it’s tough to pinpoint, noting the student organization has always put an equal emphasis and value on the traveling delegation (typically 16 members attend conferences, where they represent a pre-assigned country) and the research team (another 16 or so members who collect and analyze information and write position papers in advance of the conferences). This leads to a close-knit environment and strong social bonds within the team, and that reputation of a welcoming atmosphere certainly boosts interest. He also acknowledged the type of students the College attracts, with so many having an honest-to-goodness desire to make the world a better place, plus Wooster’s outstanding international enrollment, may be part of the rising popularity.

Everyone wants to be part of a winning culture. While the program has a decades-long tradition of success, it has reached new levels at Model UN’s two annual national conferences. Wooster was one of only five teams to win an outstanding delegation award at the American Model UN International Conference in Chicago last fall, followed by a series of individual and team honors, including a fifth consecutive distinguished delegation award at the National Model UN Conference in New York City this spring.

Wooster’s 2018-19 Model UN team
Through Model UN, students gain lifetime skills that can't necessarily be achieved in the classroom and will serve them well no matter where their careers take them. Presented with complex real-world problems—the same ones that real UN agencies and committees have the mandates and power to address—and tasked to draft resolutions that not only benefit their assigned country but would be amenable to others across the world, they quickly learn a global perspective and how to collaborate on ideas. By virtue of both their preparation for the events, and the competitions themselves, participants develop research, critical thinking, leadership, negotiation, teamwork, and written and oral communication skills.

Many of Wooster's past Model UN participants have gone on to rewarding careers in which they're working to improve the world. Here, past team presidents as well as a research director share their career paths and how their time with Model UN influenced them.

**John Yoder ’96, Foreign Service Officer, El Salvador President, Model UN, 1996**

Working as a Foreign Service Officer (FSO) within the U.S. Department of State comes with a certain degree of prestige, and of course, great responsibility. While John Yoder ’96 welcomes the adventures and challenges alike, he is also simply grateful to have discovered a dream job. “If you ever asked me if I’d be a professional diplomat when I was at Wooster, the thought wouldn’t have occurred to me, but I’m in the job with the lifestyle I’ve always wanted, and I love it,” he said.

Model UN, in part, helped open up a “world of diplomacy” to Yoder. Always one who was ready for a healthy debate about international affairs, he was easily persuaded to join the program as a first-year student and stayed with it all four years, serving as vice president as a junior and president as a senior. He noted it was “a logical extension of my studies and really brought academic issues on paper to life, igniting a passion. Immersing myself in another country’s policies and examining complex political problems from their perspective matured problem-solving and diplomatic skills, which I use to this day.”

After graduation, Yoder returned to his roots in northern Virginia and found employment with a private firm, supporting state department technology by traveling to foreign countries to install computer equipment and train U.S. embassy staff. With a foot in the door, he decided to pursue the lengthy process to become an FSO. Among the 13 dimensions an FSO must master, several are easily traceable back to Model UN: composure, cultural adaptability, information integration and analysis, judgment, oral communication, and resourcefulness. Some of those traits were first honed and brought into focus when Yoder led and prepared Wooster teams to represent other countries and debate schools at national Model UN conferences. “There’s no better preparation for a foreign service career than to plunge yourself into an environment where you are forced to hone your public speaking skills, rhetorical wit, critical thinking, and most importantly, the ability to persuade and build consensus,” he added.

For the last decade, Yoder, who speaks German and Arabic (he’s learning Spanish), has served three overseas tours in Yemen, Austria, and Saudi Arabia, as well as two domestic assignments in Washington, D.C. Yoder, his fellow FSO wife, and their three children begin a new three-year assignment in El Salvador in 2020 where he’ll be a manager in the consular section, responsible for issuing visas to foreign travelers and helping Americans living abroad. That essential work includes everything from replacing U.S. passports and documenting American children born overseas to visiting U.S. citizens who have been jailed abroad or providing assistance during a crisis. “I absolutely love consular work,” he said, “but more importantly, I love working for my country and representing the U.S. overseas.”

**Matt Fuller ’09, Director of Operations, Global Links Research Coordinator, Model UN, 2005-09**

The naturally-introverted Matt Fuller ’09 may not have seemed a fit for Model UN on the surface, however, Wooster’s program has always welcomed students who are not as comfortable with public speaking. As one of the team’s key research coordinators from 2005-09, Fuller honed his data analysis and written communication skills while gaining an appreciation for the “different perspectives or approaches and critical negotiation points” necessary to represent another country.

Fuller grew from those experiences, and with an eye focused toward a career in global health initiatives, today he is the director of operations for Global Links, a Pittsburgh-based organization that provides medical surplus to resource-poor communities while promoting environmental stewardship. He describes his position as internal logistics, coordinating the collection of excess healthcare supplies from partners in the region and their distribution to public health programs in targeted areas, such as Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, and Nicaragua.
“There’s no better preparation for a foreign service career than to plunge yourself into an environment where you are forced to hone your public speaking skills, rhetorical wit, critical thinking, and most importantly, the ability to persuade and build consensus.”

– John Yoder ’96

“Now, I’m at a fantastic organization that is trying to make the world a better place. I think the work we do here is really unique and helps in a lot of ways.”

– Matt Fuller ’09
About 80 percent of the donated material comes from individual hospitals across Pennsylvania and the mid-Atlantic region (other donors include home medical equipment suppliers and individuals), and Fuller adds “they are usually very motivated to work with us, with surplus coming through their systems, and now they get presented with a social and environmental way of disposing the material.” The supplies range in scale dramatically, as sometimes they’ll decommission hundreds of nurse workstation units, hospital beds, and other furnishings from one hospital, and other times they’ll be seeking unused instruments from surgery packets, gauze pads, and everything in between.

Fuller noted he doesn’t ask for blind donations because “having a mismatched product doesn’t do anyone any good...and could just end up in a landfill somewhere.” Instead, Global Links, whose executive director is alumna Amber Garcia ’99, works closely with the administrators in Latin America, allowing Fuller to apply his fluency in Spanish when reading assessment forms to identify what types of medical cases they’re seeing and fill their specific inventory needs.

On the receiving end are facilities that vary in scope and size. Fuller recently furnished supplies that were used for an entirely rebuilt healthcare facility that now has seven exam rooms and a small clinical laboratory to administer primary care in a rural area of Bolivia, while another shipment went to Nicaragua for a center that provides an array of maternal health services. While he doesn’t make site visits to the places that Global Links helps, he gained an appreciation for their needs when serving as a Peace Corps volunteer in Peru from 2009-13 and is thrilled to be working for a group that makes a difference. “I saw firsthand the same type of health situations there,” he said. “Now, I’m at a fantastic organization that is trying to make the world a better place. I think the work we do here is really unique and helps in a lot of ways.”

Overcoming his introverted beginnings, Fuller now happily delivers speeches. Previously, he confidently expressed Global Links’ story to hospital administrators and nurses and now to visitors to the organization in an effort to continue to look for ways to support the growth of the public health program that he is passionate about.

Hilary (Jones) Foster ’02, Education Program Manager, Amazon Web Services. President, Model UN, 2001-02

When Hilary (Jones) Foster’s long-time connection with Latin America fused with a four-year Model UN experience at Wooster, it put her on the road to a highly-successful career path as a facilitator, global dealmaker, and principled sales leader.

Foster, who speaks Spanish and Portuguese, once served as a translator for Arkansas cattle farmers in rural Angola and later prepared contracts for socially-oriented projects in Latin America during a seven-year run with Inter-American Development Bank. Now, she mediates with such dignitaries as the Minister of Finance of Chile in her current position as education lead of Amazon Web Services (AWS) for Latin America, Canada, and the Caribbean, utilizing some of the day-to-day skill sets she first developed as a Wooster student. Model UN “helped [her] to analyze social and economic issues on a structural level” and “craft approaches to resolution based on common interests of varied stakeholders,” which complemented courses in international relations and Spanish as well as a valuable semester abroad in Nicaragua.

Already with a multitude of experiences as a young professional, including a Fulbright fellowship in Brazil and Uruguay after graduation, Foster has turned her concern for the underprivileged into a worthy effort focused on investing in the next generation of problem solvers by becoming a leader in technology education. With a desire to “learn where the opportunities for change are and to contribute tools for transformation,” she enjoys her role at AWS, working with universities and educational institutions to incorporate cloud computing content and skill building into their curriculum. In Latin America, this engagement takes place at the university presidential and ministry of education levels, so not only is she dealing with high-level administrators at universities, but also with government leaders who may be encumbered by legacy policy when it comes to information technology.

Speaking both Spanish and Portuguese on a daily basis, Foster communicates effectively with a broad level of policy makers, enabling her to strike deals that benefit her growing and dynamic team at AWS Educate and its goal to “be the most student-centric organization to help support learners.” She appreciates seeing these initiatives benefit the disadvantaged youth in these countries, saying “ultimately, this product will help get students good jobs after graduation.”

While based in Washington, D.C., Foster spends large chunks of time traveling, noting that she’s even carried her soon-to-be firstborn to 10 countries, and no matter where her career takes her, she fully expects to continue to play a role in supporting innovation in Latin America while “enjoying the dynamism of working in the technology field surrounded by inspiring colleagues.”
“Ultimately, this product will help get students good jobs after graduation.”

– Hilary (Jones) Foster ’02

Through Model UN, students gain lifetime skills that can’t necessarily be achieved in the classroom and will serve them well no matter where their careers take them.

Members of the 2018-19 Model UN team prepare for an upcoming conference, honing their skills in critical thinking, negotiation, teamwork, and more.
Field Experience
APEX Fellowship in Italy provides intensive training in archaeology
By Caitlin Paynich

Who can forget the boat chase in Venice or the scene beneath the library from *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*? At nine years old, the series about the somewhat-fantastical experiences of the archaeologist inspired Wooster sophomore Benton Thompson IV ’22 to take an interest in the subject. “After conducting thorough research into the impact archaeology has on people and the world, my juvenile interest began to take shape as a future occupation,” said Thompson. “I decided then that I wanted to be an archaeologist, and my aspirations have not changed since.” The summer after his first year at Wooster, with the help of an APEX fellowship, Thompson took his own “dream-come-true” archeological adventure in Italy that offered a broad and realistic view of the profession he’s passionate about.

Set on majoring in archaeology, Thompson didn’t waste any time in his first year at Wooster quickly becoming involved in the Archaeology Student Colloquium along with volunteering and other student activities on campus. He knew that in order to become an archeologist and be eligible for internship opportunities, he would need professional field experience. His first-year seminar advisor and Latin professor Josephine Shaya, associate professor of classical studies, connected him with an opportunity at the Trasimeno Archaeology Field School with The Umbra Institute in Perugia, Italy. By applying for an APEX Fellowship through the center for Advising, Planning, and Experiential Learning, Thompson received additional funding to support his experience on an archaeological dig site in Castiglione del Lago, Italy.
With the support of an APEX Fellowship, Benton Thompson IV ’22 worked as an archaeologist on a dig site in Castiglione del Lago, Italy. Photos provided by Thompson.
Photos provided by Thompson.
“I discovered an amphora, a large storage vessel. Coarse and fine wares often have a stamp on the bottom that tells us the manufacturer’s name which is helpful when we’re informing the community about what we’ve found.”

– Benton Thompson IV ’22

“We excavated a Roman villa from 2nd century B.C.,” said Thompson. Through classes taught by the institute he learned about the Italian culture behind the excavation site. “Learning about the history of the town where I was staying really gave me perspective when I was digging and on the things that we were finding.”

Shovel and trowel in hand, Thompson took part in the dig himself, learning to use the trowel to properly scrape objects, reveal objects, record, and take notes. “We learned to create sketches of our trenches that were graded on accuracy,” he said. “Some people expect to find the most beautiful artifacts, but the reality of what you find is a lot of broken pottery sherds.” Studying the significance of the sherds and pottery vessels, Thompson and fellow excavators learned how they were used. “I discovered an amphora, a large storage vessel. Coarse and fine wares often have a stamp on the bottom that tells us the manufacturer’s name which is helpful when we’re informing the community about what we’ve found.”

Thompson also gained experience in another aspect of archaeology—community engagement. Speaking at a press conference, televised on a local Italian news station in Umbria, he “shared the significance of the work and conveyed the importance to them.” Though he’d never spoken Italian before traveling to Italy over the summer, “Archaeologists on site knew Italian, so I could work back and forth with them and ask questions,” said Thompson, who found his experience with Latin at Wooster and in high school added to his understanding of the local language. “I worked with my professor to prepare a 3-4-minute speech in Italian.”

Throughout the fellowship, Thompson saw several other excavated archaeological sites and traveled to Rome, an experience he appreciated on his first extended international trip and first trip to Europe. “I felt like I had full exposure to Italian culture and the history of the area. I developed an understanding of the global impact and why it’s important.” With field school experience under his belt, Thompson is looking for additional opportunities as he continues his education at Wooster: “Now that I have the basic skills for archaeology, I can hone those skills over the years.”

Watch video from Thompson’s trip.

Point your phone’s camera here to watch:
Financial Summary

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019, The College of Wooster had $85.3 million in operating revenue. Slightly less than half that total, or $40 million, was net tuition revenue—tuition less financial aid provided by the College. Revenue from room and board, and other auxiliary enterprises like the bookstore, added $25.2 million, while investment income, gifts, grants, and the annual payout from the endowment contributed $20 million in revenue.

On the expense side, salaries and benefits accounted for about two thirds of the College’s $85.3 million in operating expenses, at $58.6 million. Off-campus programs, travel, and general support services such as printing and postage totaled $13.6 million, while supplies and equipment, which includes food purchased for the dining halls and merchandise for the bookstore, totaled $9 million. Expenditures on capital projects and the debt service for prior capital improvements accounted for $4.1 million in expenses.

Giving to Wooster

Between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019, the College received $24.4 million in gifts, grants, and pledge payments from alumni, parents, trustees, foundations, corporations, and others. Twenty-two percent of that total, $5.5 million supported capital projects. Thirty-two percent, or $7.7 million created new or supported existing endowed funds. About a quarter, or $6.1 million, directly supported the College’s operating budget and is reflected in the operating revenue chart. That figure includes the money raised by The Wooster Fund. The remaining $5 million, twenty-one percent of the total, was undesignated.

The College of Wooster extends its warmest thanks to the many alumni, parents, and friends who gave to the College between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.
Operating Revenues
FY 2019 $85,253,000

- Net tuition revenue
- Auxiliary enterprises
- Endowment, investment income, gifts & grants

Giving by Source
FY 2019 $24,387,718

- Trustees
- Alumni
- Parents
- Friends
- Corporations & Foundations
- Other

Operating Expenses
FY 2019 $85,252,000

- Salaries (including student wages)
- Benefits
- Services, travel & entertainment, off-campus programs, general support
- Supplies, repairs & maintenance & equipment
- Capital projects funded by operations & debt service

Giving by Purpose
FY 2019 $24,387,718

- Operating
- Endowment
- Capital projects
- Undesignated
Incoming international students add to global campus community

Students from Brazil, Cyprus, France, Kazakhstan, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sudan, Vietnam, Zimbabwe, and everywhere in between joined The College of Wooster this fall. While according to a recent report by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, international enrollment at U.S. colleges and universities is in a troubling two-year decline, at Wooster 20 percent of the incoming class of 553 total first-years are international students, adding to an already geographically diverse total student enrollment of 2,000, now with 62 countries represented.

President Sarah Bolton told Teen Vogue, “We are particularly aware of all that talented young people from around the world bring when they come to the U.S.” While adding different perspectives to classroom discussions and to the growth of student organizations, international students find an ideal fit on Wooster’s campus. Senior Marco Roccato of Italy shared, “I was looking for a place that was going to challenge me and allow me to thrive as part of a positive community. I am lucky and honored to be a Fighting Scot.”

Named the 2019 Ohio Project Kaleidoscope STEM Educator of the Year, Stephanie Strand, associate professor of biology at Wooster, was honored for her excellent and innovative teaching practices by Ohio-PKAL, a regional network of an American Association of Colleges & Universities (AACU) initiative.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded Wooster a grant of about $325,000 to research the function of a protein that male mosquitoes transfer to females in their seminal fluid in a species that transmits viruses, including dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever. “The funding will expose students to a wider range of novel approaches and methodologies,” said Laura Sirot, associate professor of biology and principal investigator for the grant.

Read more at news.wooster.edu
Exploring Sports Medicine: Alexa Bencic ’22

“With an interest in learning more about sports medicine, Scot soccer player and sophomore Alexa Bencic excitedly took on an internship at Beacon Orthopedics in Cincinnati through the APEX Fellowship program this summer. "I wanted to explore sports medicine and the different facets that are included in it, and I was able to see everything that it offered," she said.

Shadowing both doctors and nurses, Bencic loved “scrubbing into surgeries, holding tools for the surgeon, and seeing up close exactly what they were doing.” She observed ACL reconstructions, hip and knee replacements, and learned to suture wounds and prep patients for post-op. Spending two weeks of her six-week internship in physical therapy (PT), she saw many of the same patients she’d seen in the operating room the weeks before. From post-op cleaning and massage to a regimented exercise program, Bencic enjoyed connecting with athletes. "I could relate to the athletes that came in, and I felt like we had an immediate connection because I was really able to understand what they were experiencing," she said.

With one patient, Bencic had the opportunity to apply her Spanish minor. "I was the only person present in the clinic who could communicate with the patient before the doctor arrived,” she said. "It was enough to get basic information and patient history so X-rays could be taken, and the patient could be treated. It was a really amazing moment.”

Now considering a career in orthopedic surgery, Bencic appreciated learning “about all the different jobs in both the surgery and clinic” while working at Beacon Orthopedics. “I hoped to learn if medicine was what I truly wanted to do,” she said. "This internship confirmed absolutely that I love medicine and want to go to medical school.”

Above: Bencic stitches a soccer player’s knee after a total knee reconstruction.

Follow all the latest news about the Fighting Scots at woosterathletics.com.

Read more at news.wooster.edu
A tradition for more than 25 years, Frese and students from her Contemporary U.S. Culture and People and Cultures of Latin America classes construct a Day of the Dead Altar in Old Main of Kauke Hall. The students create a skull in honor of a deceased family member, close friend, deceased pet, or even a famous person they admire. The skull, their picture, and an object or food that was important to the deceased become an “ofrenda” or offering for the altar.

Many students give gifts to Frese whether from their home country in the case of international students or from trips abroad. Reciprocity—as represented on this license plate given to her by a student—is a key concept Frese teaches of gifting back and forth, part of how humans maintain community.

Wooster seniors give Arch Medals, like these Frese received in 2019 and 2018, to faculty, staff, or other members of the community that they really connect with and who shape their time at the College.

A graduate of the Wooster Citizen’s Police Academy, Frese brings local police officers to her classes to talk about their role. “I provide a link for students that broadens their perspectives,” said Frese. “I want students to understand that the police are an important part of the political process in the community, and it helps the officers to hear students’ perspectives as well.”
One way to tackle the uncertainty of environmental change is learning how it might specifically affect your community by viewing climate model predictions. “If you know what you’re going to face, it’s not quite as scary.”

–Susan Clayton, Whitmore Williams Professor of Psychology, in an article in People magazine about the anxiety climate change is causing.

This summer, Meagen Pollock, associate professor of earth sciences, traveled with “Team Geochemistry,” a group of Wooster students and faculty, to Iceland to explore volcanoes that erupted under glaciers which have since retreated. The site is the first Icelandic glacier to lose its status to climate change.

“I simply wanted to commend you on the work of the Wooster magazine. I received the latest edition over the weekend, and I think the revamped issue was so well done and calibrated. It was the perfect refreshment, bathed in some signature elements that amplified the Wooster feel.”

–Daren Batke ’02, Associate Dean, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, in an email to the editor.

“My favorite Wooster memory is I.S. Monday. I don’t think there’s a college in the United States that can quite compete with what that day means and signifies to so many Wooster alumni.”

–Kathryn “K.C.” (Sullivan) Locker ’13 in her acceptance for the Outstanding Young Alumni Award during Alumni Weekend 2019.

“From now on, you will all be a part of one another’s network. You have undeniably a shared experience. Today, tomorrow, or ten years from now, you can pick up the phone and contact anyone of the people here or in your network from Wooster, and they will take your call. That’s pretty powerful.”

–Deborah Bial, president of the Posse Foundation, in her Commencement address to the Class of ’19.
1942

Class Secretary
Jerry Stryker
jerrystryker@att.net

1943

Email alumni@wooster.edu with your notes for the Class of ’43 or if you are interested in being the secretary for your class.

1944

Email alumni@wooster.edu with your notes for the Class of ’44 or if you are interested in being the secretary for your class.

1945 75th Reunion

I received an e-mail from Glenn Carlson. After serving as a Navy pilot in World War II, he was program traffic supervisor for NBC in Hollywood. He was called into the gospel ministry and went to seminary where he met and married his wife Madelyn. In seminary he was a teaching fellow in broadcasting Christian programs. He and Madelyn moved to Edinburgh, Scotland where he was assistant pastor of Greenside Parish Church and received a Ph.D. in New Testament. They were married 51 years and had a son, two daughters, five grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Our Class of ’45 Scholarship was awarded to a student in the Class of ’20 majoring in theatre and dance.

In April, I (Swanee) welcomed two great-grandchildren into our family: Julianne Mae Garnett and Oisin Sean Folco. For 34 years I have spent the summer in Maine, but this year in late May I got pneumonia and spent two months in the hospital and rehab. I came home in late July and am well.

Sadly, I must report the deaths of several classmates. Joanne E. Rice Grimm died July 30, 2018 in Lodi, Ohio; Lois A. Barr Cook died Oct. 30, 2018 in Dayton, Ohio; Marion Dexter Plumb died July 22, 2018 in Gaithersburg, Maryland; Elizabeth Morgan Treadwell on Oct. 15, 2018 in Avon Lake, Ohio. In early April I got word from Andrea Siebold ’71 that her mother Jeanne Haffa Mckown died in her sleep on Mar. 18, 2019 in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina. “Raffa” was a close friend, and I always heard from her at Christmas and looked forward to seeing her at reunions which she seldom missed. Our sympathy goes out to all these families.

Class Secretary
Jeanne “Swanee” (Swan) Garnett
33 Calf Pt., Machias, ME 04654
jeannesgarnett@yahoo.com

1946

Email alumni@wooster.edu with your notes for the Class of ’46 or if you are interested in being the secretary for your class.

1947

Your class secretaries (Jean and Don) had a good long-distance reunion by phone. They caught up on their activities and found they have several areas in common. Jean and her husband Larry have been married 12 years and Don and his wife Mary 14 years. Don initiated the reunion when his grandson moved to Stanford in Palo Alto as director of football communications for the university football program. Jean plays bridge weekly and makes silk ties into purses. She has sent several beautiful purses to Don, and he sent her some ties. Don chairs several resident committees in his retirement community and serves as power of attorney for several residents. He has written four books in the last 10 years.

Class Secretaries
Jean K. Funkhouser
Apt. 207B, 620 Sandhill Rd.
Palo Alto, CA 94304
650-854-4014
lwfxpl@sbcglobal.net

Donald Swegan
800 S. 15th St., Apt. 1027
Sebring, OH 44672
330-938-7772

1948

Duncan Mccune is active in his retirement community exercising, using a computer, and attending musical events. For his 94th birthday in March he had a dinner party. His wife, Mary, died in 2017. In Michigan, he recently attended a reunion of his wife’s family with over 100 attending. His daughter, Anne, graduated from Wooster in ’78.

Vincent Vespe’s son phoned to say that his father died in 2018 at 97. He lived a full and happy life, even played golf at 95.

My personal sad news is that my husband, Bill Hewett ’49 died in April at 94, so we never made it to our 71st
anniversary, nor to his 70th reunion. We lived an adventu-
rous and happy marriage, full of good memories.

Class Secretary

Evelyn (Fischer) Hewett
802 South 15th Street #1839
Sebring, OH 44672-2052
evelynhewett@gmail.com

1949

Happy autumn to all of you. I (Nova) went to
Wooster for Alumni Weekend with our son and daughter-
in-law. They graduated with the Class of ‘77, so they have
some friends who live there. Jeannie Tuttle Herst and Dee
Dee Carlisle were there for the weekend to represent
our class. The three of us shared the official luncheon
on Saturday, and we had a great time catching up on
our latest news and remembering our Wooster days
and our class. We obviously did not have a class meeting
since there were only the three of us, so we conducted
no business. We remembered our classmates who
are no longer with us and those fun days when they were.
I continue to be grateful for the nice notes from
members of our class.

Please keep in touch. Our
secretary welcomes any and
all communications from class members.

Class Secretary

Nova Kordalski
168 N Fairlawn Rd.
Willoughby, OH 44094
nbkordalski@gmail.com

1950 70th Reunion

Class Secretary

Janice “Jay” (Wilson) George
17300 N 88th Ave., Apt. 135
Peoria, AZ 85382-3501

1951

Shodie Lowe Alcorn ’76 wrote to let us know her fa-
thor, Emory G. Lowe, passed away peacefully on May 24,
2019. He was still living in Maryland where he had lived
since 2000. He graduated from McCormick Seminary in
1954 and served as pastor in Presbyterian churches in
Ohio, New Jersey, Indiana, North Dakota, and Pennsyl-
vania. He has returned to Wooster for a reunion in
2011. He was predeceased by his wife, Jane Matthews
50, who passed in 2003.

At age 90, Rev. Don
Pendell received the Aladdin Shrine Award for Meritori-
ous Service and a Special Proclamation of Honor by
the General Assembly of the State of Ohio.

With the assistance of the
advancement staff at Wooster,
I (Ruth) can share that the
Class of 1951 Endowed
Scholarship was awarded to a
chemistry major from the
Class of ’20. Advancement
shared that the support
students receive from these
funds directly impacts courses
they take and the extracurric-
ular and research opportuni-
ties that they participate in on
and off campus.

Please remember your
secretary welcomes any and
all communications from class members.

Class Secretary

Ruth Ann (Coleman) Davis
PO Box 387
Southington, CT 06489
ruthann11@cox.net

1952

Skip Rohrbaugh wrote,
“I retired from the practice of
OB/GYN in 1999 and continued
to work for a malpractice
insurance company with total
retirement in 2002. Nancy
and I moved to a retirement
community in Mechanicsburg,
Pennsylvania.”

Mary Jane Yoder
Peterson wrote, “It seems
impossible that age 89 has
arrived. The years have been
good, and those at Wooster
so very important and dear
dear in memory. Retirement was
early for me, at 57, when my
husband sold his business,
and we transferred to many
lovely places, enjoying every
rich moment. My husband
passed away in 2014.”

Paul Miller wrote, “I’m still
functioning, relatively low
health, now with 21 years in
our home in Los Cruces, New
Mexico. I have three children,
eight grandchildren, and five
great-grandchildren.”

Class Secretary

Warren M. Swager Jr.
PO Box 555
Sheridan, MT 59749-0555
wcswager@3rivers.net

1953

John C. Smith, Jr. and his
wife, Sheila Ciampi, divide
their time in Florida between
their homes in Largo, a
mostly snowbird community,
and Naples. John serves on
the finance and personnel
committees at First Presby-
terian Church in Dunedin
and another committee at Beth-
El Farmworkers Mission in
Wimauma. This summer they
are in their motor coach,
spending time at Ghost Ranch in New Mexico,
and visiting their extended
families in Massachusetts,
Colorado, and Texas. John
has four great-grandchildren
and another on the way.

Cheech Williston Taylor,
our faithful class secretary
for years, lives in a cozy little
villa in St. Petersburg. She
helps the Episcopal minister
with services in the health
center. She also helps with
communion, Bible studies,
and sometimes is a reader.
Cheech feels fine, loves calls,
and was especially pleased
that Ted and Carolyn
Fredley visited her.

Nancy Ewing Posson
loves reading the Wooster
magazine. She finds the arti-
cles so timely and loves hear-
ing about what others are
doing. She has the picture
that was taken our senior
year in front of Babcock and
remembers how difficult it
was to write her Independent
Study. She and her husband
fly to Colorado twice a year
to visit grandchildren.

Carl Fleming and his wife
Mimi Fitch Fleming ’54
attended both class reunions.
He is a designated photogra-
pher for her reunions. They
are in great health and travel
a lot. He volunteers at Bay
Village Presbyterian Church
and helps at the public library
with book sales and other
duties.

Ann Anderson Hoener
spends her summers at a
lovely lake house on the St.
Lawrence River near her
sister. She has a new hip that
healed well and is thrilled
with her mobility. Her son
is now minister of a church
in East Brunswick near her
home in Rahway, New Jersey.

Georgia Leary Weber
and her husband Al have
moved to an independent living
facility in Waco, Texas. They
are fortunate to have all their
children, grandchildren, and
great-grandchildren living in
Texas.
George Bender, now retired 20 years from United Methodist Church, no longer does any supply ministry or choir singing. He and wife Polly, whom he met in Boston while he was in seminary and she was in nursing school, live in Walnut Creek, Ohio amidst many Amish families. He has enjoyed pottery making and wood-working and now has his own shop with wheel, kiln, plus appropriate tools. He is active in the local Rotary and has been instrumental in saving the local library branch from closing. He is on the board of the local museum which preserves German Heritage. He is proud of the fact that a pencil drawing by his grandfather done in 1889 was copied in honor of their 100th celebration.

Dick Martin and wife Pennie still live on a lake near Salisbury, North Carolina. They are active in their local Episcopal Church with various lay activities and committees. He is in both adult choirs and functions as choir librarian. They enjoy their pontoon boat, lazy mornings drinking coffee, and their eight cats.

Class Secretaries
Priscilla Allen
570-434-2383
rallen@nep.net
Dick Martin
340 Topsail Road
Salisbury, NC 28146
704.637.7850
dick_lake@hotmail.com

1954
Eight of us made it back to Wooster to celebrate our 65th reunion, and friendly students and staff made us feel very special. We enjoyed getting reacquainted. Even though our class size was small, checking the names in the directory, there were names to which we couldn’t match a face until returning home and pulling out the yearbooks. Some of us stayed on campus and were treated to dorm accommodations in the newer facilities on campus, an improvement from dorm-life of almost 70 years ago. However, you’ll see from pictures that we’re still as handsome and beautiful as we were back then but much wiser.

Elise Murillo McHenry lives in Orange County in the same house she shared with her husband for over 60 years even before Disneyland was built. After leaving Wooster where she was a sociology major, she entered Margaret Hickey School for Secretaries in St. Louis, knowing those job skills would always lead to work opportunities.

Enjoying a river boat cruise down the Rhine from Basel, Switzerland to Amsterdam was somewhat impaired by Janet Brandon Miller’s vertigo, which was diagnosed after her trip, but fortunately it wasn’t so severe to spoil the trip. She and Bob look forward to becoming great-grandparents to number four. Roanoke, Virginia is now their home.

John Kirk and his wife, Peg, planned to attend the reunion, but unfortunately Peg picked up a bug just before time to travel, and they felt it would be better to stay home. John has the pleasure of having a group in Chicago preparing to perform his play, “The Third Richard,” for a December opening.

Dyke Kanai settled in Denver, no longer making frequent trips to Hawaii.

Jean Laurie Floyd wrote that thoughts of Wooster and family always lead to reflection on the incredible changes since those student days, especially in choosing careers and keeping in touch with family.

Please let your classmates know what’s been going on in your lives.

Class Secretary
Fran Lyon
franceslyon18@gmail.com

1955 65th Reunion
I received a chatty letter from Mark Byers. He was glad to see that Mary Crow worked considerably past retirement, as he has in the money management business, for a total of 58 years. He almost didn’t go to Wooster as he was planning to enlist in the army, but his father and Presbyterian minister put in an application for him, and he was accepted, so he put in two years in the army after graduation. Mark planned to attend our last reunion with Dan Emmet, but with changing companies the next week couldn’t get away. This next reunion was to be their time to meet, but unfortunately Dan passed away in July 2018. Mark has four daughters, two step-daughters, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Five years ago, his wife of 33 years divorced him. His fourth daughter had an illness for eight years and moved in with him three years ago. He has a house in New Jersey and one in Englewood, Florida on the Gulf coast. He plans to attend our reunion in 2020 and hopes many others will also.

Class Secretary
Nancy (Mutch) Donald
161 Lake Breeze Park
Rochester, NY 14622
nomodonald@yahoo.com

1956
Ellie Keep Harle wrote, “On May 15 I received a certificate in spiritual direction from Sioux Falls Seminary (Baptist) and a certificate in congregational leadership from Dubuque Theological Seminary (Presbyterian). On June 21 the Presbytery of South Dakota installed me as a commissioned ruling elder. Jesus called me Feb. 26, 2017. It has been a splendid two years of study he has taken me on: difficult, fascinating, and rewarding. I plan to attend Dubuque’s Summer Intensive in August for a total of 22 credits towards an M.Div.”

Garner Odell wrote, “After a long ministry in churches across the country and on cruise ships around the world, I slid kicking and screaming into retirement in the Central Valley of California. My amazing wife of forty-one years, Grace, and I now spend most of our time either trying to stay in good health or keeping up with our blended family of kids, grandkids and great-grandkids, scattered all over the globe. I’m working to master the craft of writing, something I should have worked on harder at Wooster. I have a fifteenth-century historical novel and the first of my Gemstone Thriller Series out from the publishers.”

Sue Stewart wrote, “I am so pleased that ‘Woostie,’ our bagpipe-playing mascot, wasn’t packed away in one of the many cartons unopened here at Fountain Grove Lodge. He stands in a prominent place on my Yamaha piano reminding me of places we loved and shared years ago. Carol and I are settling into our apartment with a view of the golf.
course through many trees. This note is to let you all know that I think of you often and hope that all is well for each of you. Living in a senior residence makes me grateful for my good health, ability to drive and walk from place to place, seeing my surroundings and hearing all the bird songs. I appreciate my many blessings and you are among them, good wishes, warm hugs and Chocolate Kisses from Sue.”

Pete Mortensen wrote, “Collette and I continue to be migratory, dividing our time between Ontario in summer, Pennsylvania in spring and fall, and Naples in winter. My daughter Linda ’82 says I live wherever it’s 75 degrees. We are blessed to have all seven of our 16 grandchildren and now three greats. We continue to go to the first-year lecture in September in Wooster and visit the campus for other events. Wooster organized an event hosted by Edie Andrew at her home in Naples. Re- minisences were good and President Bolton inspired as always. Class notes are good to have. Thanks for keeping them going.”

At our 50th reunion we established the Class of ’56 Endowed Scholarship and many of you made contributions. In the past year a student in the Class of ’19 received the scholarship. The scholarship assistance that students receive is more important than ever. The awards not only help reduce students’ financial concerns but enable the recipients to make the most of their Wooster education. Thanks to all of you who helped make this possible. Additional donations to our endowed fund are always welcome, the larger the fund, the bigger the scholarships will be. Thanks to all of you for keeping in touch. Keep the notes coming.

**Class Secretary**
Jan Grim
17867 Lincoln Way East
Dalton, OH 44618
najmirg@yahoo.com

**1957**

Kay Climbright reported she spent a few days with Marge Yoder Mitchell and Mary Ellen Buckstaff Bader at Marge’s retirement community in Media, Pennsylvania. Kay is having difficulty with her vision, macular in one eye and dry eyes in both. We wish her well.

Ellie Norfleet Levine and her husband visited me this spring for a long weekend. Her husband Jules served for two years in the Marine Corp Band at the Barracks in Washington, D.C., where we saw them perform.

A nice letter from Will Lange: “In spite of fading physical abilities I’m still shooting my TV show, Windows to the Wild,’ over 100 episodes available online. My little dog, Kiki, has become one of the crew, her physical abilities are not fading. In September I’ll be leading a sold-out tour of Scotland focused on Scottish history. I’ve resumed a 60-year defunct correspondence with a dear old friend, Anne (Eubank) Jolliff in Waco, Texas and encourage other classmates to write her as well.”

Bob Tobey (Haas) sent a report on his Emergence Farm, a permaculture experience. He wrote, “I live on Emergence Farm appreciating that we are nature thriving.” He harvests kale, cherries, greens, and even elderflowers to make elderflower cordial. Bob forwarded an article from the local paper with his picture receiving the Spirit of America Award for volunteerism for his work on town committees and environmental preservation. He has lived in Damariscotta, Maine for nine years.

Marilyn Eisenhardt sent a clipping from the Wooster Daily Record with the wedding of Sandy Zumbo and Bill Lang ’56 close to graduation. I recall we had other weddings that day: Sheila McIsaac (Jim Cooper) and Peg Meyer. Sandy was a Miller Manor girl and most of the members of the wedding party were too. The article said that the bride had made all the bridesmaid dresses. My only thought was that it must have been after she submitted her I.S. It would be fun to hear from other Miller Girls.

Gene Phlegar passed away in December. He had an interesting career as a Presbyterian minister, hospice chaplain, and musician. I appreciate any news you have to send me. You may think your lives are less interesting, or maybe you are going through difficult times. Let us know. We are trying to start a Facebook for the Class of ’57.

**Class Secretary**
Sylvia Martin Hoffmeier
hoffmeiersylvia@gmail.com or
smhmch@hotmail.com

**1958**

I regret to report two deaths. Bonnie Acton Moccio died on Dec. 19, 2018, in Plymouth, Minnesota. Born in Sterling, Illinois, she grew up in Pittsburgh, served in the Red Cross in Germany for three years, and spent the majority of her life in Westfield, Massachusetts, teaching and retiring from the Agawam School System and bringing up two daughters, Sara Jean and Susie. She taught elementary school, then special-education. After retirement, she moved to the Minneapolis area to be close to Susie’s family. She did church work (notably the annual rummage sale) and knitted with a group. Bonnie is survived by her brother Arthur Acton ’64. I remember Bonnie best from our freshman year, when in Hoover she lived next door to me (and Helen McGee Wilcox and Peg White) with her roommates, Jane Ann Craig Wilson and Lenore Lewton Snyder. Art said amusedly that when he visited her at Hoover with their parents, he was 12, but it was enough to set off the customary cry, “Man on floor!” Art and Bonnie are part of a Wooster family: their parents graduated in ’29 and ’31, and their late brother Peter in ’61.

Bob Carter died in Winter Park, Florida, on March 10, 2019. Bob’s sister, Jean Carter Badger ’65, lives in greater Cleveland. I’ll never forget his hospitalization in June 2018 right before he was planning to fly to our 60th. Bob was no longer class secretary or co-secretary, but through the years he’d help me out every once in a while. He had a link, through an uncle, with the Shaker Heights Rapid Transit, which my husband ran for a few years; RJ was always glad to see Rob.

Bill Moats, reports Bev Stockard has moved to Ithaca, New York.

Ruthie Holzapfel Walters wrote in her usual feisty style that she moved to Washington, Pennsylvania, closer to her daughter.

Our co-class secretary,
**Dennis**, bonds with his grandson, Cody over fishing, in which Cody has an intense interest. A factor, says Dennis, is that there are nearby ponds that seem always full of fish, so that Cody's gratification is so much more immediate than what Dennis remembers. Dennis fished as a kid in the Cuyahoga River, “where fish were few and sickly” at the time.

**Paul Reeder** sent me an account of three months in France in 1968 when he had a NATO fellowship to study at a particular lab in Paris learning procedures from a professor. The famous student riots erupted. He and his first wife, Janet, realized history was being made. They wrote letters and took slides, and the assembled document is 17 pages! Their words about walking one Sunday: “We went to see Notre Dame, what a climb to the tower!”

**Class Secretary**

Dennis W. Barnes  
12 Gildersleeve Wood  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
dennis_barnes@mindspring.com  
Nana (Newberry) Landgraf  
Judson Manor, 1890 E. 107th  
St., Apt. 809  
Cleveland, OH 44106  
NWL9@sbcglobal.net  

**1959**

Twenty-one members of the class enjoyed reminiscing at our 60th reunion in June. Thanks to Don Cash Register for serving as our president for the past ten years and to Greg Seaman for his many years as class secretary. Greg was chosen as our new class president, and Dick Christy agreed to serve as class secretary. Cash conducted a memorial service for our 27 members who have died since our last reunion in 2014. A tree in front of Douglass Hall was dedicated to our lost classmates. Betsy Stewart Humphreys, the daughter of our classmates Art and Marion Humphreys, was declared an honorary member of our class. Betsy wanted to meet and talk with old friends of her parents, and she graced our reunion with her presence.

Many from our class reside in Ohio, including Jack and Sue Bushman who returned to the Buckeye State after living in the Boston, Massachusetts suburbs for 52 years. They decided to downsize and be closer to their daughter and old college friends. Now they reside in Granville where they enjoy concerts and plays at Denison and OSU. Their new location makes it an easy drive to Wooster to meet friends at the Ohio Light Opera.

At the Boise State University campus in Idaho, the Charles P. Ruch Engineering Building honors the legacy of our own Chuck Ruch, the university’s fifth president who played a major role in establishing the College of Engineering at the school. Chuck began his work in education as a high school counselor and then served as a college administrator for five different universities over the course of his career. After 10 years at Boise State he became the president of South Dakota School of Mines and Technology for 5 years.

Chuck and Sally (Brandenburg) are retired and enjoying life in Boise.

---

**John Wilson ’78**  
Former Lead Economist, World Bank (retired)

**Involvements:** student mentor, alumni board member, chair of affinity group engagement committee, admissions event host

**Q. What do you enjoy most about volunteering with Wooster?**

**A.** It’s the knowledge that I’m working to help sustain and propel the College’s continued success into the future and investing in an institution I deeply believe in.

**Q. Why is it important to you to volunteer?**

**A.** The benefits and joy of learning was front and center for me from an early age. A classical liberal arts education is even more important today than it was for me. Wooster provides a world class education with personal, social, and economic benefits, and I want to do all I can to make the College known to others.

**Q. What have you taken away from the experience?**

**A.** It’s a wonderful way to connect with the College and be part of a vibrant and incredibly diverse community. On the Alumni Board, I work with an extraordinary group of alumni and staff, and as a mentor to a Wooster student, I’ve learned directly about the challenges and opportunities for today’s students.

**Q. Is there anything else you want to add?**

**A.** Many people I’ve met are enthusiastic supporters of Wooster, even if they didn’t attend. That’s a fantastic part of the Wooster experience and makes the College truly a great one. My partner, Lawrence, for example, sees himself as part of the Wooster family and gets tremendous satisfaction in learning about the College and thinking through ways we both can support the institution.

Contact alumni@wooster.edu to learn more about how you can be involved.
Roger Ramseyer passed away. Many remember when Roger hosted our 30th Reunion on his scenic farm in Smithville, OH. Roger spent his entire career in education as a teacher, coach, high school principal, and superintendent of Green Local Schools. While in graduate school at Kent State he helped coach the Wooster track team and later in life, became an adjunct professor in education. Roger was a strong supporter and fundraiser for the Wooster basketball team. For many years he provided vegetables from his huge garden for the College cafeteria. In retirement, Roger always looked forward to morning coffee with “the boys” at the College. He authored three books.

Jim McClung, trustee emeritus, sends a very positive report after attending the spring board meeting. The College is in great shape financially and student enrollment remains high, unlike most of our competitors in the Midwest. President Sarah Bolton continues to be an outstanding leader and an asset. Jim remains active working every day in his office in downtown Chicago. He is involved with the boards of several companies.

Gene Bay and Jean (Stobo ’60) spend summers in their cottage in the Adirondacks and Gene stays in good health by walking, golfing, and visiting the fitness center. Gene, trustee emeritus, is pleased to note that their youngest grandchild will be a freshman this fall at Wooster, the 7th Bay to attend the College.

Class Secretary
Dick Christy
dickchristy@aol.com

1960 60th Reunion

Byron Shafer wrote that 2018 was a marvelous year. He celebrated his 80th birthday with a large gathering of relatives. He celebrated the 50th anniversary of receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard and of being ordained by the Presbyterian Church. In addition to pursuing his regular continuing education teaching commitments at Fordham University and preaching in local congregations, he and Jane performed in the Meadow Lakes Playreader group’s spring production. Byron was very involved in the community’s Senior Advocates for Justice and chaired a residents’ committee that awarded $2,000 tuition grants to 26 Meadow Lakes employees.

Judy Gunkler and Bill had another year full of wonderful travels both in the U.S. and Europe, each time meeting up with special friends and family. They went snowshoeing and cross-country skiing in Wyoming, dogsledding in Colorado, camped north of Santa Fe, and revisited Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and Italy.

Don Shumaker sent me the very sad news that Dixie and Bob Whitaker lost their second daughter, Danielle, to cancer on June 16. They lost their daughter Dana approximately 30 years ago. Danielle had a very successful pet sitting business, received numerous honors in a variety of sports in high school, and was a very kind, caring, and generous person much loved by everyone. Our deepest sympathies to you, Dixie and Bob.

Harry Davis wrote that he recently learned of Matt Emerson’s passing in 2016. Matt was a good friend of his who also majored in geology. After working as a geologist for several years, he became an endodontist and a colonel in the Army. He lived in Clarksville, Tennessee.

Two other deaths that I sadly learned about are Ed Danziger, Jan. 8, 2019 and Pat Carson Mordecai, Feb 7, 2019. Both died of cancer. Ed credited Wooster for two life-changing events. He immersed himself in history and discovered his passion for doing research in libraries and archives. He taught American history at Bowling Green State University for 46 years and published four books and many scholarly articles about Native Americans. The other life-changing event he credited Wooster for was meeting his future wife, Margaret Jane Christy. Hiking and backpacking were two of his passions. He hiked the 2,200-mile Appalachian Trail and a half times and the 192-mile Coast to Coast Walk in England twice. He and Margaret had two children, John and Anne. Pat had a life-long career with the Episcopal Church, both locally and nationally. From 1998 until her retirement in 2006, she served as chief operating officer of the National Episcopal Church in New York City. She was married to Chuck Nason ’59 for 24 years and subsequently married Don Mordecai. Following retirement, they moved to Maine, where Pat remained active in church affairs.

Class Secretary
Vicky Fritschi
vickyfritschi@gmail.com

1961

Suzy Tse Lee wrote from her home in Brazil about the large number of immigrants arriving from Venezuela. She says that they are pleasant, hardworking, and never miss a Sunday church service at the Methodist church where she works as a volunteer. Her son, who attended Wooster for his freshman year about 12 years ago, brought his family to Suzy’s home to get away from the record-breaking high temperatures in Cognac, France, last summer.

Tressa Mahy Mangum enjoyed traveling this summer to the North Carolina mountains and seeing many members of her extended family, including her older brother and sister.

Bill Hoppes wrote that his wife, Dorrie, is battling cancer. The good news is that recent tests are encouraging. After attending more reunions for the Class of ’61 than many of our classmates, we are sure that Dorrie deserves honorary membership in our class as well as our best wishes.

Class Secretary
Larry Vodra
51 High Ridge Rd.
Brookfield, CT 06804
jlvodra@aol.com

1962

Greetings from your secretary. As you see I have nothing to report which means you were all very busy with summer and fall activities. I look forward to hearing from you soon. I do have news of a different type. I received
notice from the College that two students were awarded the Class of ’62 Scholarship for the 2018-2019 school year: a mathematics major from the Class of ’20, and a communication sciences and disorders major from the Class of ’19. With all the hate and violence in the world I am proud that we as a class still make a positive difference.

**Class Secretary**
June Kinder
8516 SE Seabird Ave.
Hobe Sound, FL 33455
quiltwithjune2@gmail.com

**1963**
We’re including an update on Class of ’63 Endowed Scholarship and Student Summer Research Endowed Fund. The scholarship was established at the time of the 50th reunion. For the academic year 2018-2019, it was awarded to a physics major in the Class of ’19. The Student Summer Research Endowed Fund was established in 2013 by members of the class of 1963 at their 50th reunion. Income from the fund continues to support student research. As you consider future donations to Wooster, you may wish to designate to these funds to grow their impact.

**Martha Russell Hsu**
worked as a librarian in the Cornell University Library for 38 years. Her husband, John, was in the music department at Cornell for 50 years. They had a very rewarding life at Cornell and in Ithaca. After they retired, in 2005, Ithaca seemed very cold, so in 2010 they moved to Chapel Hill where they had many friends and acquaintances. Two years later they moved to a continuing care retirement community. John was able to keep up his performing career for a few more years, but then he had to stop, due to declining health. He died a year ago. Martha continues to live in the area and would welcome hearing from Wooster friends.

**Class Secretaries**
Lynn Cleverdon
206 South MacArthur Blvd.
Springfield, IL 62704
mary.cleverdon@gmail.com
Dick Kellner
63 Old Farmers Rd.
Long Valley, NJ 07853
dickkellner@yahoo.com

**1964**
Twenty-five of us, along with spouses and friends, returned to campus in June for our 55th reunion. After the marvelous turnout for our 50th five years ago, we were disappointed that more of our classmates didn’t come. Nevertheless, we enjoyed a packed weekend of special activities and campus tours. Friday’s schedule featured several outstanding panel discussions and guest speakers and an afternoon reception for faculty, faculty emeriti, and alumni. That evening we were welcomed into Scots Forever with a lovely dinner at Kittredge Dining Hall hosted by College President Sarah Bolton and also enjoyed reunions with several of our former professors at an afternoon reception. Despite cool temperatures and intermittent rain showers, the campus never looked more beautiful, and we were especially impressed by the Ruth W. Williams Hall of Life Sciences, towards which part of our class gift in 2014 was designated. The best part of the weekend was socializing with our classmates in the evenings. Never could those of us who lived in the shabby old Holden Annex, which was “temporary housing” in 1962 and was still “temporary housing” when we were last on campus five years ago, have imagined that we would be housed in its replacement at our 55th class reunion! Rebuilt and rechristened Brush Hall, it opened three years ago and sits on the same site as the old Annex. Featuring private bathrooms and comfortable commons areas, it was the site for our evening socializing and reminiscing.

Most of us enjoy retirement now, but a few continue lifelong careers. Although officially retired from the geology department at the University of Arizona, **George Davis** travels to Greece every summer to continue his research. **Skip Baker** maintains an active pediatric practice in Southern California, where he specializes in treating children and teenagers with learning issues. **Mike Pensack** continues to enjoy his work for a non-profit dealing with rental issues in Chicago. **LaVerle Berry** shared his impressions from a recent trip to Somalia, and **Jane and Russ Yamazaki** talked about the trip to Japan they led and on which several classmates traveled. Others of us have taken up new hobbies. **Sue David Kingsley** continues to make beautiful jewelry and art objects and has taken up photography; she lives in the perfect place: the scenic central coast of California.

To those of you who were unable to be with us, you were missed! At our class meeting, at which **Skip Baker** agreed to serve as our new class president, I expressed my desire to pass the torch of class secretary to someone else. There were no takers, but if you would like to take this on, let me know or email alumni@wooster.edu. In the meantime, to all of you, you will make my job much easier if you send me your news.

**Class Secretary**
Claudia Robinson Boatright
312-664-0221
claudia324@sbcglobal.net

**1965 55th Reunion**
**Quentin Wilson** reflected on **Bill Vodra’s** comments in the previous set of class notes concerning his travels through various battlefields of the Great War. Quentin shared his memories of “walking the special bricks in the streets in 2001 that marked the location of the Berlin Wall and seeing the Chapel of Reconciliation reconstructed in rammed earth of the rubble left from the original church blown up by the East Germans just a year or two before the Wall came down in 1989.”

**Jill and Nick Karatinos** visited a Dali exhibit with **Dave and Gretchen Brand** and also visited **Bruce Dunson** who has retired and moved to Florida.

**Dick Robertson** and his wife Pat enjoyed a visit by **Bill Vodra** and Dru at their Oceanside home in May.

Our class president, **Bill Vodra** reminds classmates to plan to attend our 55th reunion June 4-7, 2020. “We are planning a class dinner in the new Ruth W. Williams Hall of Life Science, a truly magnificent building. We will be meeting in the room that honors our class’s contributions to the life sciences and the Endowed Fund for Life Sciences that we created. We will also convene at the
garden and benches our
class established between
Galpin Gym and the former Severance
Gym to remember our
classmates who have passed
away. The College will be
offering accommodations in
Brush Hall, the replacement
for Holden Annex, and Gault
Manor. Both are air-condi-
tioned and reportedly among
the nicest on campus.”

**Pat and I (Chuck)** spent
three weeks traveling Europe
in July. With about 30 other
singers from the Walla Walla
Choral Society we joined 12
other choral groups from
around the USA to perform
as the Paris Festival Chorus,
celebrating the 75th anniver-
sary of D-Day. I will retire as
class secretary and hang up
the editorship of the email
newsletters next June. I will
be happy to mentor my
replacement and provide the
e-mail database, templates
for the newsletters, etc. Bill is
seeking volunteers for class
president and secretary.
Please step forward and
keep our class communica-
tion going!

**Class Secretary**
Chuck Templeton
3006 Brisbane Dr.
Walla Walla, WA 99362
509-525-6746
templeton@whitman.edu

---

1966

This spring **Jim Poff** and I
(Chuck Knox) embarked on
a memorable twenty-five-
day journey to Africa, a wild-
life photo safari to remote
areas of Zambia, Zimbabwe,
Botswana, and South Africa:
“Freshman roommates so
many years ago, we joined
tour group that traveled
by bush planes and then
open-air vehicles to tent
 camps, small villages, and
other settings. Looking back
on this ‘trip of a lifetime’

for a couple of old Wooster
buddies, we both felt we had
an unforgettable time! Our
friendship began in Douglas
Hall almost six decades ago
and led us to the remote hin-
terlands of this very-special
southern continent.”

**Ginny Keim Brooks** wrote
that she and husband Aki
celebrated their 50th anniver-
sary on May 31 and will be
commemorating it in style
in July with a Mediterranean
cruise.

**Kathy Rowland**
Matsushima wrote, “What
fun it is to think about
Wooster friends and reunions
even after fifty years! After
30 years in Chicago, Kathy
and her husband Aki are
now thriving in Williamsburg,
Virginia. Their families of
three children and five grand-
children are now scattered
from Japan to Switzerland
to Richmond and the Silicon
Valley. They are in their tenth
year working with Japanese
MBA students at the College
of William and Mary and
return to Tokyo each year to
help with recruitment. Kathy
was ordained to Presbyterian
ministry in 1963 and has
retired but stays active in the
denomination and the local
church. She plans to help lead
a group of 25 members to the
Holy Land in March 2020.”

**Jim and Bonnie Poff** live
in Plymouth, Massachusetts
while **Chuck and Joanne
Knox** live near Portsmouth,
New Hampshire. From time
to time, Jim and Chuck get
together to play a round of
golf, share a few memories,
and enjoy a good meal with
their wives.

**Class Secretary**
Bonnie Poff
19 Pine Cobble
Plymouth, MA 02360
poffjb@yahoo.com

1967

**Mary (Randall) Cooney**
made Michael Cooney in
1969, and they moved to an
1800 colonial house in New
Hampshire which remains
a work in progress. They
raised three boys there who
live in the area. They opened
Concord Motorsport and
later became an indepen-
dent auto dealer. Mary
served eight terms for the
New Hampshire House of
Representatives. During her
term, she is proud to have
been instrumental in the
building of a nursing home
and a correctional facility and
founding a mental health
court, a drug court, and a
juvenile justice program.
After 16 years, she left and
worked with her husband
to steer their business to its
sale in 2004. She is still on
the board of a local orga-
nization, Communities for
Alcohol and Drug Free Youth.

**Wayne Cornelius** retired
for the third time, this
time from Reed College in
Portland, Oregon. His big
post-retirement project is
advising a national politician
on immigration policy and
related issues. He is finding
writing policy briefs and
helping with debate prepara-
tion is both challenging and
meaningful work.

Unfortunate news for the
class is that **Robert Mann**
passed away. He lived in
Deerfield, New Hampshire
with his wife, Maureen, for
many years. He died sudden-
ly from a cerebral hemor-
hage on April 21, 2019.

**Class Secretary**
Doug Topping
26 Ashbrook Circle
Webster, NY 14580
585-347-4685
topping@rochester.rr.com

1968

**Tommy McDonald** wrote,
“I’ve been in Green Valley,
Arizona since June 2005. My
brother Skip ’70 just moved
to Tucson from Eugene,
Oregon. I’m active in the local
church here and ride my
mountain bike more than five
miles a day.”

I wish all of my ‘68 class-
mates well and hope to go
to a reunion in Phoenix.
Looking forward to hearing
from more of you!

**Class Secretaries**
Ann Orwin
266 Ready Rd.
Carleton, MI 48117
734-654-9112
annorwin@sbcglobal.net
Pat and I
Johnson
Pam Sears Riedl
priedl@gorge.net

1969

The Class of ’69 celebra-
ted their 50th class reunion
with 119 members and their
families in attendance. The
’69 class events included a
dinner hosted by President
Sarah Bolton and her hus-
band Ari Solomon, a panel
on class members’ experi-
ences during the Vietnam
War, a panel on China, an
exploration of diversity issues
with the Center for Diversity
and Inclusion, a viewing
of the film Cool Runnings,
a memorial for deceased
class members offered by
Craig Rockenstein and Tom
Sheffield, our much appreci-
dated dinner at the home of
David and Margo Broehl, a
luncheon with retired faculty
members and their spouses,
and a dinner with the Scots
Forever Group at which Pat
Penovich offered memory
vignettes of our years at
Wooster. We enjoyed our
time together and missed
those who were unable to at-
tend. The reunion planning
committee included Helen
Chase (class president), Pat Badger, Dave Broehl, Rick Craft, Jack Eft and Darlene Russ-Eft, Dick Horn, Betsey Madsen, Dee Millard, Sol Oliver, Pat Penovich, Craig Rockenstein, Tom Sheffield, and Mike and Linda Zaugg.

Nancy (Morrison) Stowell passed away on Friday, July 12, 2019 at the Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Somerset. She received a bachelor’s degree in art history at Wooster and master’s in library science from Rutgers in 1999. She leaves behind her husband of 49 years, Bruce Stowell of Hillsborough, and her daughter Anne and husband Jesse Schifano of New York.

Class Secretaries
Darlene Russ-Eft
zmresearch@aol.com
David Broehl
davidbroehl@gmail.com

1970 50th Reunion
In April, our 50th Reunion committee met in Wooster at Margo and David Broehl’s home. The committee includes Thomas Boardman, Margo Broehl, Joyce (Harmann) Eager, Jane (Warner) Farina, Susan Hartt, David Hopkins, Kris (Adair) Imbrie, Lee (Eberhardt) Limbird, Lesly (Knowles) McIntire, Thomas Moseley, Joella (Good) Newberry, Thomas Romich, Richard Sites and Peter Snyder.

David Clark wrote, “I’m starting my 50th year of secondary education this fall. I’m truly fortunate because I love the challenge.”

Barb (Woods) Filmer retired in December after 39 years in the music and fine arts department of a PCUSA church in Birmingham, Alabama. In March she moved from Birmingham to Columbus to be closer to family.

Chris Dirks wrote regarding our 50th reunion next year: “I am planning on making the trip, though it will be quite a shock to my system to see the place after so many years. I did return to the campus a few times in the early 70s. I was busy getting a second master’s degree and then working on the Washington University (St. Louis) campus as coordinator of student activities from 1973-81 when I moved to Santa Monica, California to get an MBA from UCLA. While in St. Louis I did attend a number of alumni reunions, not to mention some alumni events here in the LA area in the 2000s (with Sally Patton), so count me in.”

Helene Kiecolt wrote, “After over forty years of living in Evanston, Illinois, my husband Tony Wahl and I sold our home in 2010 and moved to Paris, France. Tony enjoyed the outdoor markets and became active on the residence co-op board. I became a comfortable French speaker, studied the history of the 13th, walked weekly in the Parc Monceau, and discovered the municipal indoor swimming pools. In late 2015 we repatriated to New Mexico where we now live in Albuquerque. I hike with a women’s hiking group, and we participate in a French conversation group which includes Francophiles from many different geographical areas. Four grandchildren are far away but we expect to be closer to them in the near future.”

Mary Kay Cresswell wrote me (Kris) last year. She noticed I live in New Hampshire. She and her husband bought a cabin 11 years ago on a lake close to our home. She was an occupational therapist, as was I. She went to work in England for one year in 1975 as a mental health occupational therapist in the NHS. ‘Obviously I stayed on after that first year from Philly and worked at the Maudsley and Bethlem Royal Hospital. After my first year, I was offered the headship of Bethlem Royal Hospital. Along with bringing up a daughter and son, I became lead occupational therapist for the Croyden Mental Health Services of SlAM. Then my old neck and spine injuries from an Ohio car accident on my 1971 return to Wooster started to be too painful. I had to retire in ill health a few years early. I’m back to work on Citizens Advice Board of Trustees, just can’t stop the old desire to keep on trucking.”

I heard from Paige Russell that she had a mini-reunion last fall with Barbara Libbey Swec, Deb Kilgore Ford, Sally Neely, Jane Neil Caldwell and Julie McHenry Emerson, and they are all planning on coming to the reunion next year. I hope many more of you do too.

Class Secretary
Kris (Adair) Imbrie
20 Mills Falls Rd.
Barrington, NH 03825
kris.imbrie@gmail.com

1971
Kathy Palumbo wrote, “I’ve been retired from work at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta for just over a year. My days remain full volunteering at Atlanta Legal Aid, our local book festival, and MedShare. I find great pleasure being a coach for younger women who are new nonprofit leaders. Also, I finally have time to finish work on a biography of Lillian Smith, a successful American writer and civil rights activist during the 1940s to 1960s. Our class read her book, Killers of the Dream, during first-year seminar.”

Mike Finley is struggling with major health issues but sent in the following news: “I am retired except for my own writing including a book called ‘Everybody Say YEAH!’ after Stevie Wonder’s ‘Finger-tips Pt 1.’ It’s about how long it took me to really see that all people are equal. Unfortunately, I am in end-stage cancer these days, trying to hold off the darkness. I send love and greetings to everyone who knew me, even the people I went out of my way to antagonize!”

Gareth Rosenau is enjoying being retired (for more than 2 years) from the Federal Railroad: “In addition to volunteering as treasurer of my church, Unity of Washington, D.C., I traveled to different parts of Europe, North Africa, and Southeast Asia. I continue my 32 years of ushering at the Arena Stage, and my interests in photography, swimming, yoga, and hiking. It’s been fun to have more options and less structure in my life and to have quality time for family and friends.”

Douglass Seaton: “Gayle Saunders ’72 and I are both on the faculty of the College of Music at Florida State University, where we’ve been for over 40 years. Gayle heads the music theatre program for the College of Music; you can see quite a few of her former voice students in shows on Broadway, as well as around the country on national tours of Broadway shows. I teach music history, and I’m putting final touches on a book on nineteenth-century music. We continue to visit my mother...”
Edith Bender Seaton ’47 every few weeks in her house in a retirement community near Jacksonville.

Douglas Asbury: “I’ll be attending a week of the Chautauqua Institute summer program for the third year in a row, thanks to a member of the Chicago-area Presbyterian Church. When I’m not traveling, I lead a current-events discussion group at a retirement community in Evanston; I’ve done volunteer ESL tutoring and participated in my church’s resettlement of refugee families. I also subscribe to the seasons of Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Chicago Opera Theater, and enjoy attending Grant Park Symphony concerts in Millennium Park. I’m looking forward to our 50th reunion!”

Don Dewald sent in a first-time message: “I retired Oct. 31, 2018, from the Cleveland Clinic Cancer Centers-Man- sfield. After Wooster, my medical education included stops in Cleveland, Cincinnati, and Columbus. I returned to my hometown in 1980 to start a hematology-oncology practice that grew into an independent cancer center acquired by the Cleveland Clinic in 2013. Retirement finds me visiting as many of the 58 national parks as possible. When not traveling, you will find me hanging out in my Cincinnati Skyline Chili restaurant.”

Brian Beam wrote, “Laurie and I split our time between Colorado (kids), Florida (winter), Lakeside (summer), and Wooster (golf). I was encouraged to give up my medical practice when I inherited family hearing loss but plan cochlear implants this fall. I hope my implants are a success so I can hear about your experiences at the 2021 reunion.”

From Tom Wilcox: “After being the head of seven different golf operations around the country for the last 44 years I am now semi-retired, working the winter season as PGA Golf Ambassador at Desert Mountain Club in Scottsdale. I live in Scottsdale with wife Maureen; our twins are 29, son Collin in Arizona, daughter Kelly in Providence, Rhode Island.”

Jeff Stilson wrote, “I retired in October 2017, from my job as physician in the inpatient hospice unit. After working for 10 years as an internist, and then 15 years as an ER doc, I spent the last 17 years of my career in hospice, truly the most rewarding and interesting work I found. Since retirement, my main interests have been photography, ballroom dancing, and woodworking. I also enjoy spending time with my two sons, including exploring Chattanooga to celebrate my 70th birthday.”

To all members of the Class of ’71, remember our 50th reunion will be June 10-13, 2021. If you are interested in helping with the reunion planning, let Cindy Weiss or me know. We will begin contacting you for help in the near future. Please put the dates on your calendar and plan to attend. It will be fun for all of us to be back in Wooster.

Class Secretary
Michele (Burden) Johnson
1847 Suffolk Rd.
Columbus, OH 43221
cowscotts.71@gmail.com

1972
Brenda Major was elected to two prestigious American societies: the American Advancement for the Association of Science founded in 1848, and the American Association for Arts and Sciences founded in 1780.

Class Secretary
Jay Yutzey
1254 Norwell Dr.
Columbus, OH 43220
jyutzey@columbus.rr.com

1973
The John D. McKee Alumni Volunteer Award was presented to William “Butch” Wilson and Anne (Takehara) Wilson at Alumni Weekend. They reside in Houston, Texas, and have participated in almost every volunteer role that alumni can fulfill. Together, Anne and Butch have opened their home for alumni events, served as Alumni Admissions Advocates, planned several Scots in Service projects, given consistently to The Wooster Fund, sent their son, Michael ’05, to Wooster, and attended every one of their reunions.

Class Secretaries
Cindy (Sterling) Weber
cindysweber@gmail.com
Shelley Kline Franks
shelleyfranks83@gmail.com

1974
We had a great turnout for the reunion. Remember when you sign up for the 50th we want to break the attendance record. I was greeted by Joe Grunda who had not been back since the 5th year reunion. It was wonderful to catch up with Joe who lives on Amelia Island in Georgia with his wife and can’t seem to retire. As a trustee, John Kneen updated us on the latest projects and buildings to be renovated. It’s no surprise that after close to 50 years Lowry Center is on the list for a makeover. Look for 45th reunion pictures on our Facebook page: College of Wooster class of 1974.

Paul Alcorn and Shodie Lowe Alcorn ’76 both retired and moved to Ludlow, Vermont in November 2018: “We had lived and worked in Bedford, New York, since 1989. Shodie retired from being children’s librarian in the Bedford Free Library in August 2018. Paul retired from being pastor at the Bedford Presbyterian Church in October 2018. We enjoyed visiting with Dorothy Knauer ’76 just before we moved. We are looking forward to road trips, visiting our sons and their families in Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., and reconnecting with family and friends near and far.”

David Robinson wrote, “I was at Emory University in Atlanta with our classmate Ellen Idler. After over 40 years without any contact, Ellen and I met again on a webinar related to the role of religion in public health. Subsequently, as director of the Religion and Public Health Collaborative at Emory’s Rollins School of Public Health, she invited me to join a team to co-author a recent article for the American Journal of Public Health on ‘Faith & Global Health Practice in Ebola and HIV Emergencies.’ Before I retired last year from World Vision, I was part of its Ebola response leadership team in West Africa from 2014 through 2016.”

Class Secretary
Kim Tapie
5511 Canaan Center Rd.
Wooster, OH 44691
kimtapie@gmail.com

1975 45th Reunion
Tom Hostenske wrote, “Janet ’76 and I built our final home near Yorktown, Virginia. A nice piece of
water just off the York River, it has great bird viewing, and we even saw an otter this spring. We welcome visitors.”

Liza Catino wrote, “I have enjoyed competitive soccer ever since leaving Wooster, where I played field hockey and lacrosse. In Connecticut I play in two women’s soccer leagues and for the past 15 summers have served on the board for an organization sponsoring a women’s soccer tournament that benefits Chrysalis, a women’s shelter in Wallingford. My team, the Connecticut Classics, travels every July for the USASA Veteran’s Cup, in the 0-60 division and made it into the semi-finals. Wooster’s own Claudia Thompson, retired professor of psychology also plays in this tournament. Joe ’74 and I still live in Guilford and enjoy spending time with our three children, their spouses, and our six grandchildren. If you’re in New England, come for a visit.”

Jeanne Gay wrote, “I moved back to Ohio last winter and am now living in Perrysburg, where I can spend lots of time with my daughter’s family (including a grandson born in June). I am serving part-time as pastor of Collingwood Presbyterian in Toledo and am enjoying spending time with old and new friends. Hope to see many of you next June.”

Radd Riebe wrote, “After 44 years in Cleveland, my wife and I moved to Washington, D.C. I transferred from the Cleveland Stout office to our office in DC, closer to our daughter who is a lawyer in NYC.

Diane Holt Frankle wrote, “I retired completely from Arnold & Porter and the practice of law on Dec. 31, 2018 and have been enjoying my new freedom. In May, I celebrated the publication of The Role of Directors in M&A Transactions, a governance handbook that is my legacy project with the American Bar Association Business Law Section. I was one of four coeditors, and 20+ authors, and I am very proud of our new handbook, which offers practical guidance to corporate directors and their advisors engaged in mergers and acquisitions. Meanwhile, I organized a mini-reunion of the women who created our Wooster ‘ Fool’s Paradise,’ Elizabeth Wolff Village, Mary Lee Talbot and Catherine Turner Vanderhoof, at Mary Lee’s home in Chautauqua, New York in late May. My husband, Bob Franklin, and I celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary last June with a Viking River Cruise from Amsterdam to Basel with our sons, Paul and Mark and their partners. We get together with our Wooster classmates (Cathy and Mary Lee, Phil Correll, James Correll, and Doug Shaw ’76) every Thanksgiving.”

Class Secretary Jeanne Gay 419-707-1562 Revjeannnegay@gmail.com

1976

Mark High wrote, “I work in the Detroit office of Dickinson Wright PLLC, doing corporate and M&A work. I’m also president of the Canada-US Business Association, focused on SE Michigan/SW Ontario. I represent the College at college fairs and keep up with fellow alumni. Jannette and I recently celebrated our 28th anniversary. Our youngest daughter Elizabeth had a nice visit at the College over MLK weekend, so let’s keep our fingers crossed that she might become a third-generation Scot!”

Melinda Estridge recently celebrated her 40th year as a Real Estate Broker in Washington, D.C. She’s in touch with Bruce Koppert and Debi Smith. She’s also celebrating 25 years of marriage to Bob O’Toole who comes to our reunions and loves the Wooster crowd. Melinda and Bob own a second home in Florida. They enjoy vacationing and took a trip to Africa last year. Melinda is a cancer survivor and five years cancer-free!

Roderic Owen and Linda ’77 enjoyed visiting Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India in February where Rod helped begin an annual college exchange program a decade ago. In March and April, Rod taught courses focused on global justice and peace-building at Symbiosis University in Pune, Maharashtra. On June 18 (their anniversary), Rod and Linda’s first grandchild, Ella Caroline, was born. Rod wrote, “We live a good life in the Shenandoah Valley and like many Wooster grads we are involved in Presbyterian Church activities, community outreach, various forms of board service, and travels, both domestic and abroad, especially to my native Wales. We welcome Wooster friends!”

Helen Ellis Becker, and husband, Jim Becker ’75, moved to Utah in 1988. She reports, “After residing in several cities in this picturesque state, we finally chose Moab for our home in 2007. We love it here and welcome any alumni to our home. I have been creating acrylic collage paintings since 2017 for a group exhibition called Summer Idyll in a gallery in New York City. At the opening reception, Cathy Turner Vanderhoof ’75 was in attendance, and it was great visiting with her.”

Sue Purves McCaffray sent this note, “I have retired after 36 years as a professor of Russian history, the last 31 at UNC Wilmington. I published my fourth book, The Winter Palace and the People last fall. Now I’m practicing permanent Saturday while coordinating Christian Ed at my church.”

Karen Havholm checked in from Wisconsin, “I’m retiring from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in January after a nearly 27-year career. I spent half of that as a faculty member in the geology department as the science education specialist, teaching science to future elementary teachers and mentoring undergraduate students in geology and geology education research topics (thanks to my Wooster training in I.S.). I spent the last half of my career as assistant vice chancellor for research and sponsored programs. A career high-point was when UW-Eau Claire was recognized with the Award for Undergraduate Research Achievement as the top Master University institution nationally in 2016. I am looking forward with excitement to whatever comes next. Hope to see you at the Wooster reunion in 2021!”

Chip Roston wrote, “I retired from my career in the pharmaceutical industry in March 2016. My wife, Terry, and I spend summers in Port Clinton, Ohio and winter in DeLand, Florida. We are enjoying retirement. I enjoyed being able to attend the Wooster Black and Gold
UNLIMITED OPPORTUNITY

From the moment international student Sayantan “Sunny” Mitra ’16 arrived at Wooster, from his home in Kolkata, India, he found there were “no limits to the opportunities [he] had.” In his first two years at the College, the economics and mathematics major received two APEX fellowships to support his career exploration off campus, first through an internship with Grameen Bank in Bangladesh, followed by an opportunity to study at the Institute for Financial Management and Research in Chennai, India. He also participated in an “eye-opening” Wooster-sponsored academic program in Kenya. “I had only done internships in South Asia,” Mitra says, “and this was so interesting to me, as someone from a developing country, to go to another developing country and see what’s the same, what’s different.”

He also got involved with the International Student Association on campus, joined the Wooster Cricket Club, and was elected president of the College’s Student Government Association in his senior year. Mitra says the relationships he built over four years at Wooster with friends, faculty, staff, trustees, and alumni “are steadfast and will last a lifetime.”

Mitra’s experience with Independent Study, working one-on-one with faculty, prepared him to land a position right after graduation as a research associate with the Evidence for Policy Design program at Harvard’s Kennedy School. The project involved trying to model informal insurance arrangements, of the sort usually seen in families or among neighbors, but also common in developing societies. For his work at Harvard, Mitra built on this experience in his research to reduce delays in the payment of wages for the government’s employment guarantee scheme. He also investigated the link between the government’s skills training program in rural areas and female labor force participation.

As a Ph.D. candidate now studying development economics at the University of California, Berkeley, Mitra is putting the research skills he honed at Wooster to work focusing particularly on agriculture and resource economics.

Weekend for the last two years.” Finally, a note from our class president Steve Shaw, "We are about to begin planning our 45th reunion and need your help! I talked to some of you at the last reunion and know there are several who expressed interest in being a committee member. Being a committee member is a low exertion volunteer job but very important to the success of the event. We want to get people outside, enjoying physical activities, and then enjoying a relaxing evening. If you can't help plan, send us your thoughts about what you liked and didn't like at any prior reunions. Share what was missing and what was enjoyable. We will keep everyone updated as planning progresses, but please send Debbie or me thoughts and volunteer." 

Class Secretary
Debbie (Starr) Branfield
260-704-3240
dsbwooster76@gmail.com

1977
Brian Heater wrote, "Maueve Kinch and I are still in Gainesville, Virginia outside of Washington, D.C. I retired from a career as a public-school band/choir/strings teacher in 2011 but couldn’t stay retired. I work as a technology education teacher in a middle school in Prince William County, Virginia. Maueve recently retired from a teaching career with Christian Schools and is enjoying time to join book clubs, talk with her sisters, and plan our travels. This summer we are spending three weeks in Scotland, mostly in the highlands and islands. We spent four years teaching in the DODDS schools in Germany and travel frequently to Germany and France. Any old Woo friends traveling near Washington, D.C. are welcome!"

We received news from Betsy Marvin, "I was honored at the Eastman School of Music commencement ceremonies this year with an endowed professorship, the Minehan Family Professor. This is partly the result of an amazing experience I had two years ago assisting a team of researchers and neurosurgeons who removed a brain tumor from a professional saxophone player and music teacher, where the location of the tumor could have negatively impacted his musicianship.”

Class Secretary
Beth (Dickson) Linvill
peeps77@sbcglobal.net

1978
Class Secretary
Bob McDowall
mac@cow78.com
1979

Elizabeth Brandt: “I was sorry to miss the reunion, but this is a very busy summer for me. My husband and I both retired in June; we moved back to Cleveland from Idaho, and will celebrate my son’s wedding in August.”

Sharon Farmer Schoneman: “Steve and I remain in Ashtabula and have moved our business into a larger space a block from Lake Erie. Besides work on our software, called VistaTrac, we enjoy boating, Florida time in the winter, and the antics of our 10 grandchildren.”

Don Bordine: “Ann reported that Don retired in July as associate director of operations for the Office of Animal Care and Use, National Institutes of Health. They will be heading to four of the five Great Lakes, visiting friends and family.”

Chris Hein: “I’m on year three of volunteering for the board of the friends of the Solana Beach Library, collecting money from donations and book sales, then passing it out as free programs for kids and adults and need-based scholarships for local kids to go to college.”

Ann Royce: “I was sorry to miss the reunion. My husband Rick and I have retired to Cape Cod. We are involved with the Museum of Natural History in Brewster, Wellfleet Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, and IFAW. In the winter our favorite activity is helping to find cold stunned turtles on the beaches and getting them to rehab. My Wooster science background has definitely helped!”

Pat Jolie: “It was a joy to catch up with old friends and to get to know other classmates at our reunion.

The weekend only served to increase my appreciation for Wooster’s academic prowess and dedication to students. On Sunday, Sarah (Sallie) Osborn and I caught up with Laurel Danes ’80 and her husband Rick, near Cleveland. My husband Peter and I hope to catch more alumni activities and perhaps see you at the next reunion.”

Scott Wishart: “Hola to the Class of ’79 from sunny Spain! Sorry to have dropped off the radar. I’ve been living in Europe for about 25 years now, and I love my work as a teacher.”

Jen (Reed) Jones: “I’m back! You have another five years of my charm and wit as your class secretary. The Wooster Class of ’79 Facebook page seems to be the easiest way to reach out and remind you about deadlines. I am open to suggestions though. Mark and I will return to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in May 2020 after five years in Japan. So, until our paths cross, hasta la vista!”

Class Secretary
Jennifer Jones
xojones@aol.com

1980 40th Reunion

Bonnie Bosworth sends greetings from Virginia’s Eastern Shore where she will be teaching high school chemistry and physics. She recently got together with her four children and nine grandchildren in Atlanta.

Our class extends deepest sympathy to the families of two classmates who recently passed. Susan Dodd Kestler passed on April 30, 2019 after a long and courageous battle against lung cancer. Rick Thayer passed on July 22, 2019 in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Mike Riffe and Kate welcomed a granddaughter this spring. Mike also filled in for his daughter as dean of students at Worthington Kilbourne High School during her maternity leave and served as interim head coach for the boys’ lacrosse team: “So much for retirement! Actually, it was great being back in school and on the sidelines on a full-time basis for five months. In my last time serving as head coach, I was nominated by fellow coaches and honored by the Ohio High School Athletic Association with the Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity Award for Boys’ Lacrosse in 2019.”

Class Secretary
Jenny Watson
1802 Ardleigh Rd.
Upper Arlington, OH 43221
jlwatson395@sbcglobal.net

1981

Leanne Poteet is in Maryland managing a team of graphic designers. Her twin daughters recently graduated from college, and her son Graham will soon be married. Having just turned 60 everything is new and exciting she reports.

Karol Rosengren and his wife, Sarah Mangelsdorf, have taken new positions at the University of Rochester. Karl will be a faculty member with a joint appointment between the department of brain and cognitive sciences and department of clinical and social sciences in psychology. Sarah will be the first woman to become president of the university.

Class Secretary
David Stern
dianna_david@hotmail.com

1982

Jennie (Parrish) Rakos wrote, “My daughter Chloe got engaged in July. Brendan, her fiancé, proposed overlooking the ocean in Laguna Beach, her favorite place. John and I are so happy for them!”

Heather Murphy von Allmen, Peter von Allmen, Katie Blood Duke, Bill Duke, Martha Miller Duvall, Larry Duvall, Rachel Swanger, and Rachel’s husband Bob gathered recently for a long weekend in San Antonio. They enjoyed great company, good food, and ventured out on electric bikes to explore the Mission Trail.

Allison Amos Muller continues to enjoy Beaufort, South Carolina. She recently got together with Greg Tonian and Laurie Lewis Tonian ’81 when they visited her beautiful home along the coast.

I, Susan Lancaster Toner, will be in a new home this fall after 20 years. I jokingly tell everyone that we are “downsizing” from a two-story to a one-story home with a large basement. If you haven’t already, please join our Facebook group, CW Class of 82.

Class Secretary
Susan (Lancaster) Toner
11593 Westbury Place
Carmel, IN 46032
susan_toner@hotmail.com

1983

Congratulations to Jeff Todd, the new president and CEO of The University of New Mexico Foundation. He has more than 30 years of advancement leadership experience and most recently served as associate vice president for alumni and executive director of the alumni association at The University of British Columbia in Vancouver. He
Previously served as director of The Wooster Fund and alumni relations at Wooster, Jeff is “excited to return to the Southwest and honored to join the outstanding team at the UNM Foundation.”

Kristen “Kris” Leslie is happy to report that she is starting her 23rd year in teaching at a seminary/divinity school and her 10th year as professor of pastoral theology and care at Eden Theological Seminary in St. Louis. In June, she attended a meeting in Denver, which allowed her to reconnect with Libby Black.

It was great to hear from Allen Gerard who has been with investment bank Cowen and Co. since 1987 and “still enjoys the business.” He has been married for 29 years and has three children.

Julia Klein was elected to the board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, which she describes as very interesting work. Wooster alumnus and fellow Trustee Don Kohn had a distinguished career at the Fed and that inspired her to become involved.

Forty years ago, we began our college adventures at Wooster, moving into dorms or houses, meeting our roommates, going to dinners at Lowry or Kittredge, and figuring out where our classes were. Share pictures or memories of your Wooster years on our Facebook page (Wooster 83) or our new Instagram account @ woosterclassof83.

Class Secretary
Mary (Marsinek) Calvert
mcalvert83owo@gmail.com

1984
Class Secretary
Denise Short
4 Sanborn St.
Exeter NH 03833
denise_short@hotmail.com

1985 35th Reunion
I (Barry) was on campus April 26-27 for the Wooster Insiders’ Summit, an opportunity to hear about what’s happening at the College and learn about the challenges and opportunities facing Wooster and higher education in general. Despite the drizzle, the campus was beautiful, and it was fun to spend time with these folks who were on campus: Brian Cavanagh ’83, Mary Neagoy ’83, Jennie Sailer ’83, and Lisa Skeens ’88. The event coincided with the annual Senior Research Symposium, where students present their I.S. projects as audience members say “Wow!” and repeatedly pick their jaws up off the floor.

Congratulations to Katie Hopper, who was named the 2019 recipient of the Maryland Humanities Council 2019 Christine Sarbanes Teacher of the Year Award! The honor recognizes a Maryland teacher who works avishly to promote reading. Katie teaches 7th & 8th grade English at Washington Episcopal School in Bethesda. In August, Katie, our children, and me (Barry) vacationed in Montreal!

Holly Zapf, a doctor in naturopathic medicine, was recently nominated as Best Holistic/Alternative Practitioner in Portland, Oregon. She is looking forward to the wedding of Elizabeth “Eli” Bacon and Brian Boyd ’84: “Eli and Brian’s nuptials will be a long overdue celebration of true love ignited at Wooster in 1982!”

Class President James Haskins’ move in March from managing director of Philadelphia’s Wilma Theater to a similar position at Minneapolis’ Guthrie Theater, resulted in a few class note aftershocks. In May, James and husband Michael Whistler purchased a new home in Minneapolis and held a reception. Among those in attendance were Chris Causey and wife Julie. Finally, on June 10, the Wilma recognized and celebrated James’ 13 seasons at the theater and 20 years in the Philly arts scene at Fête 2019, its annual fundraising event.

Megan Rogers reported another Haskins aftershock. “Last week, when I attended the Guthrie’s gala performance of “Guys and Dolls,” I ran into James Haskins. I have attended this theater’s plays for most of my life, so it was a kick to find that James was sitting only three rows ahead of me. We chatted at intermission.” Megan, too, has begun a new job. “I began my licensed clinical psychology position at Bluestem Center for Child and Family Development in Rochester, Minnesota. I will be expected to provide most of the center’s autism assessments.”

It’s transition time again for world traveler Diane Weisz Young. As regional coordinator for the EducationUSA network, a State Department-sponsored program that provides assistance to college students who want to study in the United States, Diane is responsible for 21 counties and 23 centers in West and Central Africa. In May she and her husband finished their assignment in Abuja, Nigeria. In June she moved to Accra, Ghana while he headed to Pretoria, South Africa. “I will maintain a home base Accra while also joining David at his new home in Pretoria. While not ideal to live apart, we both have great jobs and will do our best to see each other as often as possible.” Diane added that she is quite proud that Wooster’s incoming class has so many students coming from overseas.

As a past president and board member of YWCA Pierce County, Phyllis Izant remains devoted to the organization, which empowers women and eliminating racism. In July, her Tacoma community and the YWCA celebrated breaking ground for a new 55-unit permanent housing project that will support families fleeing domestic violence. “With state, county, city and housing tax credits, in addition to private support, our total project cost is $23 million,” reported Phyllis, who continues to serve on the organization’s finance committee. “Upon completion we’ll have the campus we dreamed about back in 2006.”

Dawn Garrett-Larsen wrote that she has served as minister of the Nelson Congregational Church in Nelson, New Hampshire for 19 years. “My son, Jesse, graduated from Wooster, and it is time for a big change,” she wrote. “I’ve been called to the First Congregational Church of Canandaigua, New York as their Sr. Pastor.”

“Just been shaking in California with 7.1 and 6.4 quakes, all good, no damage,” reported Will Lorenz of July’s earthquakes. “Other than that, I’m enjoying a nice summer, traveling the U.S. for work, and cruising around Newport Harbor in
our Electric Duffy boat on weekends.”

**Chris Causey** began his fifth year as a trustee of the College. He also was re-elected to the Board of United Therapeutics, a biotechnology company headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland. This role brings Chris to the D.C. area regularly and he and yours truly had lunch together on April 23. In October, Chris and wife Julie’s eldest son, Nate, is getting married in Baltimore.

On May 13, **Bill Pazos**, in D.C. from his home in Singapore, met up with **Pete Constantine, Victor Frank** and me (Barry).

Please plan on coming back to campus for our 35th reunion in June! Truth and light, from your favorite class notes resource.

**Class Secretary**
Barry Eisenberg
15736 Buena Vista Dr.
Rockville, MD 20855
beisen14@gmail.com

**1986**

**Bernice Walker** wrote, “In June, I participated in the National Senior Games in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I qualified by competing in games in Ohio (track and field) and Kentucky (basketball) in 2018. I did not bring any medals home, but the team finished in 5th place, and I have a ribbon to prove it. In addition, I had a good time playing 3-on-3, half-court basketball with a Texas team.”

**Glen Roebuck** wrote, “It has been an exciting few years for us. I continue to be fulfilled and challenged working in health care. I support and oversee all home-based, outpatient, and senior services for Genesis Health System in Davenport, Iowa. Diane (my wife of 32 years) and I are celebrating 20 years in our nearly 100-year-old home with never-ending projects. We are empty nesters and love it! Our adult kids are doing great in life and careers.”

**Leslie Mastbaum** wrote, “This last year I relocated from my beautiful Dunedin to the Charlotte area with my husband’s job. I’m getting used to it but miss the beach. We do live in a cabin on a lake. I am involved in the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, a career interest since I lost my best childhood friend to suicide. Last year it became very personal when we lost our foster daughter to suicide. The organization promotes open discussion, education, research, and access to mental health services. This year I’m hosting the survivor’s day in my area. My goal is to work for a change in her memory, and for her children’s future.”

**Gretchen Marks Crane** shared that even though she turned 55 this year she did not retire after 31 years of teaching and will return to the classroom for year 32: “My bigger news is that my daughter Mallory Crane ’19 graduated magna cum laude. In addition to the pride of graduation, Mallory was featured in the spring/summer edition of the magazine for her U.S. She is off to Vanderbilt University to pursue her master’s in special education, but I’ll be at Black and Gold Weekend in the fall. Our son Noah is a junior this year at the College.”

I (Cindy) have had the usual busy spring and summer doing things with my children. Laura graduated from Wooster in May, and we enjoyed a wonderful celebration weekend with friends. Matthew attended a football camp held by Solomon Thomas, son of Wooster classmates Chris ’83 and Martha Thomas ’83. August was an exciting month for Laura and me because we traveled to Croatia! For me, this year has brought some major changes that were long overdue. I am looking forward to a new chapter in my life, finally getting the opportunity to find happiness and to truly enjoy what the world has to offer.

**Class Secretaries**
Cindy (Panos) Papp
cmpapp@aol.com
Kenyon Mau
kenyon@humancapitaladvisors.com

**1987**

Brian and Karen Carl visited Wooster in May for daughter Alena’s graduation and enjoy life in northern New York despite the long winters.

**Emily Perl** wrote that she is experiencing an early version of empty nest this summer as her 17-year-old daughter has spent three weeks in Costa Rica plus four weeks as a junior counselor at an overnight camp. She had one fabulous long weekend on a personal retreat in the Hudson River Valley area of New York and has also been traveling to Ohio and New Hampshire.

**Franklin Lim** is in Spartanburg, South Carolina and is interested in meeting up with other alumni there.

**Mary Beth Miller** lives in Hudson, Ohio, down the street from **Mary (Fearn) Jack**. She’s been having a fun summer so far with “my two boys and husband, and recently ran into **Lisa (Hunyadi) McKay**.”

**Lisa Hunyadi McKay** reported, “I visited my parents in southern Colorado, driving out after attending a wedding in Chicago (daughter of Deb Horn ’89). I feel very blessed my parents are alive and mostly healthy. It was great to see **Mary Beth Miller** a few weeks ago. I did run into **Mary Fearon Jack** a few months ago, and **Jennifer Ingold Seltzer**. I also saw **Amy Zuberbuhler Butler** when I attended her dad’s funeral (wish it had been under better circumstances).”

**Kimberly Todd Sayers** shared, “Jeff and I are loving lake life, enjoying as many weekends as possible at Marblehead on Lake Erie. I was installed as president of the Rotary Club of Wooster, which is a tremendous honor and quite humbling, as the Wooster club is the largest in our district. I attended the Rotary International convention last year, where there were 25,000 other ‘Rotarians’ from across the globe. Like Wooster, Rotary International connects the world!”

**Bryan Gillooly and Karen (Melech) Gillooly** enjoyed a wonderful weekend in Cincinnati, Ohio and Covington, Kentucky over the 4th of July.

**Chris Drake and Tom Junkin** had a great time catching up and watching a D.C. United soccer game in July. Chris was in D.C. for the third summer in a row doing a training with the U.S. Soccer Foundation so that he can train coaches back in Detroit to be part of the Soccer for Success program which promotes physical activity and healthy nutrition through coaching soccer and mentoring K-8th grade students.

**Class Secretary**
Emilie Storrs
Cathedral Station
PO Box 0542
New York, NY 10025
EmilieStorrs@gmail.com
1988
Michelle Pagano Heck, president of Nonprofit Talent LLC has been named a 2019 Women of Influence by the Pittsburgh Business Times.

Patrick Schmitz wrote, “My wife and I are moving into the empty nest phase of life after sending our youngest to college this fall. I spent a week in July on a mission trip in Guatemala with Food for the Poor. It was a humbling and gratifying experience, and I recommend it to anyone who can do it.”

Class Secretary
Elizabeth Walsh
Lisaluicywalsh@gmail.com

1989
Class Secretary
Anil Parwani
aparwani@hotmail.com

1990 30th Reunion
Class Secretary
Trond Peersen
202-276-0723
trond@peersen.com

1991
From Jennifer Porcari:
“Jennifer (Shaw) Porcari, Deb (Whitfield) Wiese, Morgan Pearson, Barbara Beenakker, Liz (West) Gildden, Mary Beth (George) Beatrice, and Jen (Brintnall) Bell met for a fun weekend to celebrate our big birthday year. This has become a fun tradition to catch up with mostly east coast Woo gals. I have been an organizer with the National American Federation of Teachers for the past 22 years. I hope that those of us from the 1991 class in the D.C. Metro area can get together soon!”

From Gayle Glanville
Wilson: “I married Matthew Wilson on Jan. 5, 2019. He and I were friends in high school and re-met at our 30th class reunion in 2017. Lisa Zink-Seaman Ward (Bunnie) was one of my attendants; Elaine Turley ’82 and Janna Turley Burns Nowicki ’84 were guests. Matt and I are making our home in our home town, Cuyahoga Falls.”

From Katie Jones McClelland: “In July, Rich and I traveled to the Outer Banks with fellow Wooster graduates Carrie Fasolt Crawford, Danielle Dunn, Karl Crandall, Bob Graves, Anna O’Donnell, Matt Hastings and our families. The week went by too fast and was filled with fun and relaxation.”

From me (Susan Deelsnyder): “My husband Rob and I are empty nesters and have moved to Maine. We found a log cabin on a bunch of acres and are learning to adjust to a rural lifestyle. I took a position of operational excellence manager at Waldo County General Hospital in Belfast, so I have a lovely drive to the coast each day. I recently met up for dinner with Megan Shore ’93 and Sarah Schurman Eberly ’93 in Rockland. I hope traveling ‘Woosterites’ will get in touch if they come to Maine!”

Class Secretaries
Susan Deelsnyder
385 Johnson Flat Rd.
Clinton, ME 04927
Tennischick1268@gmail.com
Katie Jones McClelland
katiejonv@aim.com

1992
I received a note from James “Jamie” Wallace: “I have had a successful career in sales and for the past five years have been a strategic account manager for Amazon Web Services. I am married, with a daughter and a son. Last year, I was blessed to receive a heart and kidney transplant that found me in the hospital for 10 hard months, but I’m regaining my strength.”

I would love to hear from other classmates, so please send along your news!

Class Secretary
Kathleen Quinn
86 Faren Dr.
Highland Heights, KY 41076
wooster1992@yahoo.com or quinnka@nku.edu

1993
Christopher Myers, Morgan Beever, and Rob Vosburgh had dinner in Kittredge when they attended the Wooster Insiders’ Summit in April. Being insiders, they could dispense with Wooster speculation and instead focused on catching up and strategizing on ways to lure Elaine Baran Black back to campus.

Your class secretaries, Dana Grande and Dana Jackman, are well, wish you well, and are eager to hear from you.

Class Secretaries
Dana Jackman
Dana Grande
collegeofwooster1993@gmail.com

1994
Class Secretary
John Parsons
parsons3@me.com

1995 25th Reunion
Our esteemed co-president Emily (Weidner) Armour wrote that she lives in Wooster with her husband and two daughters and is finishing her fourth year as an educational technologist at Wooster. She wrote that she “had the pleasure of visiting with Jill Gregory and Laura Templeton Aosved during their recent visits to campus!” She added, “If you are on campus, I’d be delighted to buy you a smoothie at the Knowlton Café in Williams Hall or an order of onion rings at Mom’s.”

The other half of our strong co-presidential ticket, Sarah (Fuller) Klyberg, wrote that she has been living in Warwick, Rhode Island, with her husband Kevin ’92 and their family for nine years. After serving as associate dean for just over a year, she was appointed as interim dean of the division of arts and humanities at Bristol Community College in April 2019. She added she is really excited to plan our 25th reunion and see many of you in Wooster next year!

My co-secretary Meg Braun has marked four years of living in Nashville this past April, after spending 20 years as a New Yorker. She wrote, “In the winter of 2019, I began teaching Music Together, an immersive song and movement program for little ones and their parents. I love it and am looking into pursuing a master’s degree in early childhood education and development,” adding, “If you know any young families in Nashville looking for a family/community music program, sends them my way!”

She wrote that since going off the road in 2017, she has written upwards of 50 songs and with any luck will have a new album out in time for our 25th reunion next June.

And I (Brad) continue to make Colorado my home with Holly Kyle ’98 and our family since moving to Denver in 2017. I am married and I love it and am looking into pursuing a master’s degree in early childhood education and development,” adding, “If you know any young families in Nashville looking for a family/community music program, send them my way!”

She wrote that since going off the road in 2017, she has written upwards of 50 songs and with any luck will have a new album out in time for our 25th reunion next June.

And I (Brad) continue to make Colorado my home with Holly Kyle ’98 and our family since moving to Denver in 2017. I am married and I love it and am looking into pursuing a master’s degree in early childhood education and development,” adding, “If you know any young families in Nashville looking for a family/community music program, send them my way!”

She wrote that since going off the road in 2017, she has written upwards of 50 songs and with any luck will have a new album out in time for our 25th reunion next June.

And I (Brad) continue to make Colorado my home with Holly Kyle ’98 and our family since moving to Denver in 2017. I am married and I love it and am looking into pursuing a master’s degree in early childhood education and development,” adding, “If you know any young families in Nashville looking for a family/community music program, send them my way!”
studying novel treatments for rare genetic kidney diseases in children by participating in several clinical trials and other clinical and translational research efforts but have somehow found time to explore local craft breweries and food trucks.

**Class Secretaries**

Brad Dixon
ppageno@aol.com

Meg Braun
megb1973@gmail.com

**1996**

Tatjana Mochalova reports: “I’m loyal to art and poetry, painting and writing, and participating in art shows in Moscow. I wrote song lyrics in English for my husband, Ilya, who is a musician-composer-song writer. I also help people using essential oils (aromatherapy) which have been my passion for over 20 years. In the past three years, it has been helping my husband (who has also become a political/social activist) in his work fighting for human dignity and rights in Russia.”

**Class Secretaries**

Pandora Cunningham
pandora.cunningham@gmail.com

Katy Anderson
katoodle@gmail.com

**1997**

Anne Lyman shares the following from Tacoma: “I moved to a role as president of the Washington State Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association.

Zach Lyman and I are preparing to take simultaneous fall sabbaticals from our jobs at Pacific Lutheran University (Zach) and Tacoma Community College (me). We will be taking our family to Europe for four months and look forward to connecting with Wooster alums in Edinburgh, Antwerp, and Vienna.”

Time for my own update: I (Brian) have recently moved. My new address is below. I would love to get together if anyone is visiting! Besides unpacking boxes, I run two companies: Plan F Solutions and Nest Insurance Solutions. Things are constantly busy which is great, and my son is starting middle school. I appreciate all the updates you share. Please keep them coming.

**Class Secretary**

Brian A. Friedman
17824 East Park Drive
Cleveland, Ohio 44119
BFriedman216@gmail.com

**1998**

**Class Secretaries**

Holly (Kyle) Dixon
8269 Mellon Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45242
hollydxixon@gmail.com

Sally Lenore Thelen
sithelen@gmail.com

Sandra Kozer
skozer@gmail.com

**1999**

At our 20th reunion, there were lots of good times had by all attendees. Our class elected a new class president. **Timeka (Thomas) Rashid** is taking the reins again as we head toward the big 25th reunion in 2024! She shared “After nine years, I am leaving Kent State University and joining the Viking family as assistant vice president of inclusive engagement at Cleveland State University. I am excited to begin this new chapter of my professional life. She added, “Another big life change is that our (Timeka and Abdul Rashid ’94) oldest son Nasir graduated from Shaker Heights High School and is now at the US Airforce Academy. Our youngest son Hasim will be a sophomore this year at Shaker Heights.”

**Elizabeth (Howard) Ferguson** was recently sworn in as president of the Jacksonville Bar Association. She has been involved in the Bar Association throughout her career.

**Sarah Fenske**, who many of us remember as a fearless editor of The Wooster Voice, has made the transition from print journalism to radio. She is the host of “St. Louis on the Air” on St. Louis Public Radio.

**What exciting things are happening in your life? Please share with your classmates.**

**Class Secretaries**

Sarah Fenske
sarahfenske1@gmail.com

Rorie Nicole Harris
rorieharris@gmail.com

**2000 20th Reunion**

**Michele Harvey (Turko)** sends her greetings from the UK, where she has been living for eight years. Michele’s first trip to the UK was during a Wooster semester abroad to London with the IES Program. She’s married to a man she met in London in 1999 and enjoys work as a pediatric occupational therapist.

**Marshall Jones** shared the following update: “I’m in Kalispell, Montana working as the music director at Bethlehem Lutheran Church and as an adjunct professor at Flathead Valley Community College.”

**Marge (Foot) Reid** and her whole family (husband Alex, son Warner, and daughters Hazel and Harriet) just finished a production of “Mary Poppins” in July. She continues to run a successful voice and piano studio in Minneapolis and enjoys playing competitive tennis and performing in musicals on the side. She looks forward to helping plan the 20th reunion over the next year! Please visit if you’re ever in the area.

**Class Secretary**

Joan (Hammer) Amaratti
408-603-3903
joanamaratti@gmail.com

**2001**

Heather Schieda and Amy (Peshina) Fontaine were both attending the Ohio Federation Mother of Twins yearly convention in June and were surprised to find they were both honored by their local clubs as mother of the year.

**Matthew Frank** and Erin Toohey Frank ’07 welcomed their third daughter, Charlotte Jennifer, on April 29.

**Class Secretary**

Chris Powers
520 Roberts Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13207
cpow7@yahoo.com

**2002**

Stephen Belenky joined Dorrier Underwood, a management consultant firm, specializing in the areas of business formation, logic modeling, program development, operations change, revenue diversification, and succession planning.

Heidi Erdmann celebrated the one-year anniversary of her business, Erdmann Marketing Group, in June. She also hosts a monthly networking group for female marketers in the Boston area. She’d love to connect with Wooster students or alumni in marketing or business in New England and beyond.

Mindy (Smailies) Birch: her family, including husband Brian, and children, Anabelle, Evie, and Maggie, moved to Powell, Ohio in April 2019. Mindy says, “We are enjoying our new neighborhood and looking forward to not moving again if we can help it.”

**Chris Liao** accepted a
new role as director of front office at San Antonio’s best hotel: Hotel Emma, located at the Pearl, a culinary destination.

**Melissa (Barty) Langworthy** competes in local and national triathlon events and qualified to represent Team USA at two international events. In May, she went to Pontevedra, Spain for the 2019 ITU Multisport World Championship and competed in the Aquabike swimming and cycling race, finishing 25th among 200 athletes from around the world. She'll represent Team USA at the 2019 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final in Lausanne, Switzerland and race in the draft-legal sprint race in August. She wrote, “I feel honored to be able to represent the USA on the world stage and receive tremendous support from my husband Tom Langworthy ’01, family, friends and coworkers, and sponsorship by my employer Survey Gizmo.”

**Class Secretaries**
Liz (Farina) Markel
liz.farina@gmail.com
Jennifer (Petkovsek) Murphy
jennifermurphy1980@gmail.com

2003 **Class Secretary**
Margaret Stigler
2031 W. Augusta Blvd. #2
Chicago, IL 60622
margaret.stigler@gmail.com

2004 **Class Secretary**
Laura (Hennigan) Husarek
3809 Park Ave.
Brookfield, IL 60513
laurahusarek@gmail.com

2005 15th Reunion
Amanda (Rollins) Dobler
completed a two-year post-graduate internship and received her license with the state of Florida as mental health counselor. She is an outpatient therapist at Emerald Coast Behavioral Hospital in Fort Walton Beach working with adolescents and active duty military members providing intensive outpatient treatment.

**Hannah Richardson** received her master's in higher education student affairs in May, got married in June, and began a position at Warren Wilson College in July as the director of internships. Hannah and her wife Michelle live in Asheville, North Carolina.

**Jesse Smith** works at Microsoft in Redmond, Washington as a software engineer on the Mixed Reality at Work team working primarily with HoloLens devices to bring future technology to first-line workers. He lives in Seattle, Washington.

**Class Secretary**
Amanda Dobler
amanda.dobler@gmail.com

2006 **Class Secretary**
Christine (Moffett) Bowersox
relocated to the tri-state area in November 2017. She completed her master's in library science at the University at Buffalo in 2012 and is a research librarian at the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell in Manhattan. Christine is interested in connecting with Wooster alumni in the area.

**Class Secretary**
Patti Ross
ross.patricia@gmail.com

2007 **Class Secretary**
Erin Elliot
wrote, “We had our second child, Archer David Elliot, April 24. I continue to teach elementary music in Mishawaka, Indiana and am a worship leader at our church.”

**Erin (Toohey) Frank** wrote, “Charlotte Jennifer Frank arrived April 29, and we are all in love. Her big sisters, Lucy and Clara, adore her. We can’t wait to take her on her first visit to Wooster. I’m still teaching middle school and have recently switched from social studies to science. We look forward to our next reunion!”

**Class Secretaries**
Ashley Brandt
310 S. Hancock St. #306
Louisville, KY 40202
ashleybrandt84@gmail.com
Joy Bronson
1235 Lewis St. Apt 101
Nashville, TN 37210-3458
joyebbronson@gmail.com

2008 **Class Secretary**
Laura Gross
married Alex Effendi on May 18, 2018, and they live in Washington, D.C.

**Jonathan Butensky** wrote, “I married the beautiful Kali (Neundorfer) Butensky in Avon Lake, Ohio, July 20, 2019. We reside in historic Hudson, Ohio where I teach chemistry at Western Reserve Academy.”

**Danny and Kara Caine** also have exciting news to share. He is the owner of the Raven Book Store in Lawrence, Kansas. His first book of poems, *Continental Breakfast*, was released in March 2019 by Mason Jar Press. Another book, *El Dorado Freddy’s*, is a collaboration with photographer Tara Wray due in March 2020 from Belt Publishing. Kara is nearing a Ph.D. in music therapy at the University of Kansas. Kara and Danny welcomed a son, Jack Harold Caine, on May 29, 2018.

**Kyle and I (Heather)** still live in Lakewood, and we love the frequent Wooster alumni encounters! Kyle

is starting this year as the director of Clark Scholars, a new program at Bowling Green State University’s satellite campus in Huron, Ohio. The program is designed for students with intellectual disabilities to gain college credits and life experience, and Kyle is so excited to be in on the ground floor. He joined two other Wooster graduates, Kate Dailey ‘86 and Andy Kurtz ’85, who are both deans at the school.

We love hearing the exciting news in your lives! Continue to let us know when you’re starting a new job adventure, moving, if there’s a wedding or birth, or if you just had a fun mini-reunion with our classmates.

**Class Secretaries**
Heather Closen
heather.closen@gmail.com
Kyle Closen
kclosen08@gmail.com

2009 **Class Secretaries**
Taryn Gress
5965 Hodgman Dr.
Parma Heights, OH 44130
tarynhgress@gmail.com
Carly Carey
carylcarey@gmail.com

2010 10th Reunion
Nicholas Knodt joined the Washington, D.C. office of Quinn Evans Architects as a staff architect. He holds a master’s in architecture from the University of Virginia. Allyson Palmer had a lot to celebrate in 2018 with her wedding to Adam Frederickson in June and graduating with her M.D. and Ph.D. degrees from the Mayo Clinic School of Medicine in May 2018, she is at the Mayo Clinic as a resident physician in internal medicine. Gregory Carlisle earned his doctorate from Rowan
University School of Osteopathic Medicine on May 16, 2019.

**Dan MacVarish** and his wife Vanessa welcomed their first child Emily Kathleen MacVarish on April 4, 2019.

**Class Secretaries**
John Obery
Sarah Coffin
2010Wooster@gmail.com

**2011**
**Class Secretary**
Lauren Camacci
lcamacci@gmail.com

**2012**
**Nell Gram** graduated with an M.S. in library and information science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She accepted a position as senior instructional designer at the university’s college of business.

**Class Secretaries**
Kristen Schwartz
schwartz.kris@gmail.com
Elizabeth Striegl
estriegl26@gmail.com

**2013**
**Jordan Dieterle** and her husband Drew live in Bradenton, Florida. They are both chiropractors. Drew focuses on postural correction, while Jordan’s expertise and further education is to treat pediatric and prenatal patients. Jordan also has further education and certifications to adjust horses and other animals.

**Tom Gilliss** earned a Ph.D. in physics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He works at Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory. Wooster folks in the DMV area, reach out!

**Lexie Kuzmishin Nagy** and Dwight Nagy (Wooster college relations) recently celebrated one year of marriage. Lexie received her Ph.D. in biochemistry from The Ohio State University, where she studied aminoacyl-tRNA synthetases and trans-editing of aminoacyl-tRNAs in the laboratory of Karin Musier-Forsyth. Lexie received an NIH Institutional Research and Academic Career Development Award (IRACDA) post-doctoral fellowship, a NIH K12 Career Development Award, at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She will study toxin-antitoxin systems in the laboratory of Christine Dunham, while teaching chemistry and biochemistry classes at minority-serving universities.

**Charlotte Shapiro** is studying a dual master’s degree in elementary/special education at Goucher College expecting to graduate in May 2020. She joined Baltimore City Public schools in August 2018 and is a special educator for grades K-2. She married Patrick Enoch on May 18, 2019 surrounded by many of her close Wooster classmates! Charlotte, Patrick and their cat, Raven bought their first house in the winter of 2019 in Baltimore County, where they enjoy backyard gardening and being new homeowners.

**Sam Swartz** is a middle school math teacher, coach, and dorm parent at Andrews Osborne Academy in Willoughby, Ohio.

**Lauren Vargo** is living in Wellington, New Zealand for grad school. She submitted her Ph.D. thesis over the summer, looking into how the New Zealand glaciers are changing in response to climate change.

**Stephen Wanner** and **Taylor Morgan** live in Warren, Ohio, with their dog Ralphy. They married in October 2018. Stephen is in his third year of residency as an orthopedic surgeon. **Annie Woller** has been living and working in Brooklyn, New York for the past six years. She is the rental programs manager at the Mark Morris Dance Group full time while pursuing her graduate degree in film studies from Brooklyn College. She also created and produces an indie film festival, Jump/Cut: A Dance on Film Festival, which had its inaugural event in August and is in part based on the work she did for her I.S.

**Mike Zhang** left New York City in the fall to begin pursuing a master’s in economics and policy at Johns Hopkins University.

**Class Secretary**
Lauren Gilliss
410-596-0256
lgilliss13@gmail.com

**2014**
**Class Secretary**
Bria Price
Briaprice01@gmail.com

**2015 5th Reunion**
**Class Secretaries**
Arielle Cerini
acerini15@wooster.edu
Holly Hickman
holly.a.hickman11@gmail.com

**2016**
**Olivia Murphy** joined Cardinal Mooney High School as girls’ soccer coach. She is also a master’s candidate in library and information science at Simmons University in Boston.

**Class Secretaries**
Sarah Cali
scala16@wooster.edu
Kaitlin Starr
kstarr@uorens.com

**2017**
Several classmates shared that they will start graduate school this fall. **Etienne Fang** will attend the University of Aberdeen in Scotland to pursue a master’s in environmental science. Both **Allie Elchert** and **Alex Day** will start Ph.D. programs: Alex at Case Western University studying pharmacology and Allie at Harvard University studying biological and biomedical sciences.

Others shared exciting news about their careers.

**Ariel Miller** is a resident services advisor for the Home Owners Association in Brambleton, Virginia, and **Marisa Adame** started a multimedia production company based out of Chicago. Her projects range from spoken word poetry and plays to narrative film. She is interested in connecting and collaborating with Wooster alumni in media arts and entertainment, regardless of location.

**Elizabeth Kantra** discovered at a recent family reunion that two of her relatives (Amir Aziz ’06, and Jeffrey Lang ’77) also attended Wooster. They bonded over their love of Wooster and I.S.

**Class Secretary**
Katie Stock
k77.stock@gmail.com

**2018**
**Email alumni@wooster.edu with your notes for the Class of ’18 or if you are interested in being secretary for your class.**

**2019**
**Email alumni@wooster.edu with your notes for the Class of ’19 or if you are interested in being secretary for your class.**
Prohibition-era tales untold by Eliza Letteney ’21

Lisa Lindquist Dorr ’88 flexes skills from her international relations major at Wooster in her second book, A Thousand Thirsty Beaches: Smuggling Alcohol from Cuba to the South during Prohibition. Now associate dean and professor of history at the University of Alabama, Dorr recounts the vast smuggling networks that moved high-end distilled spirits from Cuba to the southern U.S. “Despite the South’s evangelical reputation, as a rule the culture has a sense that good times are fueled by booze,” even at a time when alcohol was illegal in the U.S., Dorr explains. Noting that few historians have long-form research—her I.S., an experience she says validated her and good times are fueled by booze,” even at a time when alcohol was illegal in the U.S., Dorr explains. Noting that few historians have written specifically about the invasion of alcohol in the South during Prohibition, she tasked herself with looking into it.

Dorr compares her research for the book to her first encounter with long-form research—her I.S., an experience she says validated her and proved that she could “accomplish a big task by looking and digging.” In this case, digging revealed to Dorr hundreds of documents related to U.S. Coast Guard intelligence efforts to stop smuggling. According to Dorr, smuggling caused the Coast Guard to “grow in size and transition into a law enforcement agency with an intelligence office.” These documents became one of the biggest sources for her book.

Through her research, she discovered that much of the alcohol smuggled from Cuba originally came from European distilleries that feared the loss of their American market as a result of Prohibition. Likewise, around this time the U.S. passed laws that enacted quotas further restricting the flow of immigration. As a result, another market opened up for smuggling undocumented immigrants from various homelands through Havana and into the United States. Thus, a series of circumstances set into motion an illegal flow of people and products from across the globe. These revelations, and others, can be found within Dorr’s book, published last fall.

FALL 2019 | WOOSTER 51
Ellen Idler ’74 and Dave Robinson ’74 recently collaborated on an article for the American Journal of Public Health.

For one year the University of North Carolina at Wilmington History Department has been graced by two College of Wooster alumni: Angie Zombek ’04 (right), a specialist in the U.S. Civil War era, and Sue McCaffray ’76 (left), a Russian historian who retired the spring of 2019 after 31 years at UNCW.

Heather Schieda ’01 and Amy (Peshina) Fontaine ’01 both attended the Ohio Federation Mother of Twins yearly convention in June and were honored by their local clubs as mother of the year.

Diane R. Uber ’74 attended the 27th Conference on Spanish in the U.S. 12th Conference on Spanish in Contact with Other Languages at Cleveland State University with her Spanish 310 class and others: Shureka Nyawalo (visiting assistant professor of French and francophone studies at Wooster), Wilson Freije ’21, Vanessa Medina Castro (Spanish language assistant at Wooster), David Snell ’05, Brittany Leyda ’21, Alberto Peralta ’20, Elizabeth Suárez ’21, Sarah Hopkins ’21, Camryn Bragg ’21, Kate Atwell ’20, Jack De la Cruz ’21, Cat Baker ’22, Larissa Cargal ’19, Chantelle Rhoden ’20, Paul Lance ’20, Denise Broda ’96, Charlotte Klein ’15, Diane R. Uber ’74 (professor of Spanish at Wooster), Melvin González-Rivera (University of Houston), Rachel Shonebarger ’13.

Allison Amos got together with Greg Tonian ’82 and Laurie Lewis Tonian ’81 when they visited her home along the coast.

Jeanne Herst ’49 and her granddaughter Catie Herst ’14 celebrated their 70th and 5th reunions at Alumni Weekend 2019.

Chris Thomas ’83, Cindy (Panos) Papp ’86, and Martha Horst Thomas ’85 met at their son Solomon Thomas’ football camp in Texas.

For one year the University of North Carolina at Wilmington History Department has been graced by two College of Wooster alumni: Angie Zombek ’04 (right), a specialist in the U.S. Civil War era, and Sue McAffray ’76 (left), a Russian historian who retired the spring of 2019 after 31 years at UNCW.

Ellen Idler ’74 and Dave Robinson ’74 recently collaborated on an article for the American Journal of Public Health.
WOOSTER ENCOUNTERS

9 Chris Drake ’87 and Tom Junkin ’87 caught up watching a D.C. United soccer game.

10 Debbie (Krudwig) Gutowski ’99 enjoyed seeing current Wooster students Gabe Sherman ’21 and Andrew Hill ’21 play summer baseball with the Utica Blue Sox in the Perfect Game Collegiate Baseball League.

11 Traveling to Outer Banks in July were (back row) Rich McClelland, Anna O’Donnell, Katie McClelland, Carrie Crawford, Matt Hastings, Karl Crandall; (front) Danny Graves, Bob Graves, Danielle Dunn, Kyle Dunn Crandall, alumni from the Class of ’91.


13 Patti Ross ’06 wished Michelle Erickson-Jones ’06 luck shortly before testifying at a House Ways and Means Trade Subcommittee hearing.

14 Elizabeth Wolff Village ’75, Diane Holt Frankle ’75, Catherine Turner Vanderhoof ’75, and Mary Lee Talbot ’75 gathered at Mary Lee’s home in Chautauqua, New York.

WEDDINGS

1 Laura Andrews ’05 married David Spano, June 28, 2019, Medina, Ohio; Nancy (Dujmovic) Habecker ’05, Hannah Richardson ’05, Amanda (Rollins) Dobler ’05, Nell-Morgan (Schieber) Vitale ’04, Annie (Kissling) Ruddy ’05, and Christine (McEvoy) Prusa ’05.

2 Rena Starr ’11 married Joseph Wasukanis, Oct. 06, 2018 at Flying Ridge Hunt Club in Millersburg, Ohio; Mike Redick ’11, Kenny Libben ’10, Joseph Wasukanis, Rena Starr ’11, Kate Baker ’09, and Carly (Herman) Vincenz ’10.
3 Erin Bauer ’10 married Kevin Carpenter ’12, Aug. 18, 2018, Columbus, Ohio. There were 45 Wooster alumni in attendance!

4 Maddi O’Neill ’16 married Ben Taylor ’16, July 28, 2018, Erie, PA; Michael Hatchett ’16, Emily Baird ’16, Marie Sheehan ’17, Caillin Ziegert McCombs ’17, Emma Nathanson ’16, Katie Cameron ’17, Mariah Joyce ’17, Alex Downs ’16, Maggie Sestito ’18, Matthew Ehrenburg ’16, Maddi O’Neill ’16, Ben Taylor ’16, Marcus Carano ’16, Andrew Hamel ’16, Charlotte Tierney ’16, Matt Loberg ’16.

5 Lorenzo and Leah Dumanicas ’13 married December 2019. Back row: Matt Peppers ’13, Lily Peppers ’13, Jenn McDonald ’13, Patrick Brennen ’13, Madeline Brennan ’12, Mark McDonald ’13, Devin Warner ’13, Duncan Price ’13, Michael Erik Ronlund ’13, Ken Peterson ’12, Eva Peterson ’13; front row: Andrew Blaikie ’13, Tyler Rhodes ’13, Lorenzo Dumanicas ’13, Leah Dumanicas ’13, Justin Stanger ’13, Becky Gravenstede ’13.

6 Allyson Palmer ’10, Lindsay Brainard ’10, and Syd Kelly ’10 were at Allyson Palmer’s wedding to Adam Fredericksen, June 2018.

7 Hannah Richardson ’05 married Michelle Reihfeld, Asheville, North Carolina: Brian Habecker, Nancy Habecker ’05, Michelle Reihfeld, Hannah Richardson ’05, Floyd Butz, Melissa Andrews, Laura Andrews ’05, and Amanda (Rollins) Dobler ’05.

MINI-REUNIONS

1 Annie Gillespie Campbell ’98, Ryan Campbell ’97, Lisa Kola Lesh ’98, Laura Snow-Thakral ’98 and children had a small reunion in Rhode Island.

2 Nick Huber-Welty ’03, Katie Huber-Welty ’01, Anne Fischer ’01, Katie Boin ’03, Amy (Peshina) Fontaine ’01, Shaun Fontaine ’01, Meris (Mandermach) Longmeier ’01, and Derek Longmeier celebrated turning 40.

3 The Class of ’70 50th reunion committee met in April to plan for Alumni Weekend 2020, front: Joella Good Newberry, Joyce Harman Eager, Margo Raudabaugh Broehl, Kris Adair Imbrie, Susan Hartt; back: Lesley Knowles McIntire, Tom Romich, Tom Limbird ’69, David Hopkins, Jane Warner Farina, Lee Eberhardt Limbird.

4 Heather Murphy von Allmen ’82, Peter von Allmen ’82, Katie Blood Duke ’82, Bill Duke ’82, Martha Miller Duvall ’82, Larry Duvall ’82, Rachel Swanger ’82 and Rachel’s husband Bob gathered for a long weekend in San Antonio.

5 Roger Sturtevant ’74, Bob Sturtevant ’75, Vanessa Piala ’75, Sam Patterson ’75, and John Hallowell ’75, and (seated) Evan Reynolds ’74, and Howie Cohen ’75 gathered at the home of Roger Sturtevant ’74 at the first Slater House Reunion in Annapolis Royal, Nova Scotia.

6 W Association Hall of Fame members Janet (Nordstrom) Morbeck ’72 (left) and Donna (Beck) Seegar-Sedmak ’71 (right) visited their former Wooster coach Ginny Hunt in Bozeman, Montana, in July.

Have you married, started a new job, moved, or retired?
Share your news with your Wooster classmates by contacting the secretary for your class year.

Change of address?
Make sure you update your address, email, and contact information with The College of Wooster, so you continue to receive the latest news and information. Visit woosteralumni.org/update-your-information.

Class Notes Policy
Class Notes and photos included in this issue were received by Aug. 1 and edited for clarity, style, and length. Notes and images received after the deadline for an issue may be included when possible or saved for a future issue if appropriate. Class Notes are submitted through the secretary for the class at class_notes@wooster.edu. Photos, especially those of weddings, mini-reunions, and children, must include alumni in the image and identification of all those in the photo; individual images of children of alumni will not be published. Digital images of high resolution (files sized at least 1-3 MB) work best. Images that do not meet the quality standards necessary for printing cannot be included.
Distinguished Alumni Award  Patricia Vittum ’74

Coming to Wooster from Phelps, a small town in western New York, as one of about 15 graduates in her high school class who went to college, Patricia Vittum ’74 developed an interest in a Ph.D. in biology at an early age and never concerned herself with being an exception. On the cusp of the enactment of Title IX in the 1960s, her high school didn’t offer sports to women, and she “desperately wanted to be an athlete,” so she was excited to play field hockey, basketball, and tennis at Wooster. She was involved in efforts to ensure that women varsity athletes received resources. A chemistry major, she found faculty supported her involvement in athletics, making it easy for her to make up labs.

As the sole female among 24 chemistry majors in her class, Vittum said her gender wasn’t an issue in the classroom, noting it can still be a barrier for women in her field today. “At Wooster, the faculty was behind me. They wanted me to succeed.” Elected to Phi Beta Kappa, Vittum excelled in the sciences and found her classes gave her “a foundation on how to synthesize information.” She took a summer job at Cornell in entomology—the study of insects, later completing her Ph.D. in the subject at Cornell, and focusing on studying “the biology of insects to see how they impact crops.” She became a leading expert in the management of pests in turf including understanding how insects impacted golf courses, athletic fields, parks, home lawns, and cemeteries, and developing ways to “manipulate the turf so that the pest is at a disadvantage.”

Again finding herself in a male-dominat-ed industry, Vittum worked closely with turf managers to “figure out ways to manage turf insect problems that would minimize disruption to the environment including biological control options, chemicals that were less toxic, and making cultural changes that reduce insect activity.” In 2015 she was the second woman to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the United States Golf Association Green Section, and in 2017 she was the first woman to receive the Distinguished Service Award from the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. “I’m proud to be making inroads for other women to be considered for these awards. We’ve begun to see some changes in those areas.”

Vittum considers receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award from Wooster an “affirmation of the life balance that Wooster was able to help create including success in [her] career and other aspects of [her] life,” she said, sharing that she and her wife Laurel Brocklesby have been together for more than 25 years, and recently endowed a scholarship to support women in the sciences. “We recognize the transformative experience Wooster provided and want to offer the same opportunity to future students,” she said.

Honoring Outstanding Alumni  The College of Wooster Alumni Association awarded outstanding alumni

The award recipients included (left to right) Kathryn Sullivan Locker ’13 who received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award, Pat Vittum ’74 and Macharia Kamau ’82 receiving Distinguished Alumni Awards, and Anne (Takehara) ’73 and William ’73 Wilson who received the John D. McKee Alumni Volunteer Award.

Right: William Longbrake ’65 received the Sara L. Patton Stewardship Award (pictured with Patton).
As Kenya’s permanent representative to the United Nations, Macharia Kamau ’82, along with his co-chair from Hungary, was tasked with bringing 193 countries together to develop a framework for environmental governance at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. “Because every country was doing what it wanted, we were ruining our environment, our biodiversity; fish stocks were collapsing; wild animals were being devastated; water was polluted; pollution was killing off thousands of people,” he said. “We agreed to put together new goals for the world.” But building global consensus among the representatives of 193 countries and 2,500 international and non-government organization leaders seemed an impossible task. Kamau found that his education at Wooster, allowed him to “have conversations and competencies in a wide range of issues and gave him strength in negotiating.”

Arriving at Wooster in 1978 after a four-day journey from Kenya, Kamau felt in many ways like he’d come to an alien planet without the familiarity of his home country and culture. Through the support he received as an international student and his involvement in student groups, he began to find the positives and became “the connector between various groups,” working to “build solidarity between black and African students and speak with the administration on behalf of students,” he said. “Wooster helped me completely re-evaluate how I saw the world. No matter which classroom you were in, you were constantly being challenged to think through your ideas.”

In negotiations at the UN conference to develop 17 goals ranging from issues of poverty, health, education, gender, industrialization, energy, peace and security, Kamau faced combative questions designed to stall the conversation, but drawing from his liberal arts experience, he found he had the answers to questions he hadn’t specialized in. “The more you're able to speak to a wide range of issues, the more you gain confidence of people in the room,” he said. Culminating from three years and three months of conversations and negotiations, the conference resulted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Helping people to connect over their common interests, Kamau said, “is something I've done all my life.” Currently Kenya’s principal secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he chaired the UN Peace Building Commission in 2016 and served as Special Envoy of the General Assembly on Climate Change and UN Secretary General on El Niño and Climate. In addition to his Wooster degree, Kamau holds a master’s degree in social policy and planning from Harvard University.

Pleased to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award at Wooster, he said “People always ask me if my greatest experience was at Harvard. Without a doubt it was a great experience, and the name Harvard resonates with people around the world, but I always tell them that I am who I am because of Wooster. My experience truly prepared me for the world and has a long and lasting impact on who I am.”

As Kenya’s permanent representative to the United Nations, Macharia Kamau ’82, along with his co-chair from Hungary, was tasked with bringing 193 countries together to develop a framework for environmental governance at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. “Because every country was doing what it wanted, we were ruining our environment, our biodiversity; fish stocks were collapsing; wild animals were being devastated; water was polluted; pollution was killing off thousands of people,” he said. “We agreed to put together new goals for the world.” But building global consensus among the representatives of 193 countries and 2,500 international and non-government organization leaders seemed an impossible task. Kamau found that his education at Wooster, allowed him to “have conversations and competencies in a wide range of issues and gave him strength in negotiating.”

Arriving at Wooster in 1978 after a four-day journey from Kenya, Kamau felt in many ways like he’d come to an alien planet without the familiarity of his home country and culture. Through the support he received as an international student and his involvement in student groups, he began to find the positives and became “the connector between various groups,” working to “build solidarity between black and African students and speak with the administration on behalf of students,” he said. “Wooster helped me completely re-evaluate how I saw the world. No matter which classroom you were in, you were constantly being challenged to think through your ideas.”

In negotiations at the UN conference to develop 17 goals ranging from issues of poverty, health, education, gender, industrialization, energy, peace and security, Kamau faced combative questions designed to stall the conversation, but drawing from his liberal arts experience, he found he had the answers to questions he hadn’t specialized in. “The more you're able to speak to a wide range of issues, the more you gain confidence of people in the room,” he said. Culminating from three years and three months of conversations and negotiations, the conference resulted in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Helping people to connect over their common interests, Kamau said, “is something I've done all my life.” Currently Kenya’s principal secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, he chaired the UN Peace Building Commission in 2016 and served as Special Envoy of the General Assembly on Climate Change and UN Secretary General on El Niño and Climate. In addition to his Wooster degree, Kamau holds a master’s degree in social policy and planning from Harvard University.

Pleased to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award at Wooster, he said “People always ask me if my greatest experience was at Harvard. Without a doubt it was a great experience, and the name Harvard resonates with people around the world, but I always tell them that I am who I am because of Wooster. My experience truly prepared me for the world and has a long and lasting impact on who I am.”
IN MEMORIAM

Since the last issue, the Office of Alumni Engagement became aware of the deaths of the following alumni by August 15, 2019. Contact alumni@wooster.edu with information about the deaths of alumni or for more information.

'43, William J. Hail, Dec. 5, 2018, Kearneysville, WV
'44, Lauretta W. (Wright) Cipra, Sept. 4, 2018, San Diego, CA
'45, Esther S. (Swinney) Frederick, March 5, 2019, Chagrin Falls, OH
'45, Jeanne H. (Haffa) McKown, March 18, 2019, Toledo, OH
'46, Margaret E. (Tremier) Saunders, Feb. 26, 2019, Penney Farms, FL
'46, Elizabeth B. (Burket) Kielbowicz, April 15, 2019, Sewell, NJ
'47, Dorothy (Vaugh) Whitcomb, Sept. 15, 2018, Madison, WI
'48, Stuart G. Ronald, Feb. 5, 2019, Portland, IN
'48, Dorothy Ann (Cook) Matthews, March 26, 2019, York, PA
'48, Kathleen Fravel Funk, May 30, 2019, Sarasota, FL
'49, James I. Eden, Feb. 19, 2019, Ormond Beach, FL
'49, William S. Hewett, April 2, 2019, Canton, OH
'51, Anne Ogden Zimmerman, March 1, 2019, Raleigh, NC
'51, Eleanor L. (Linden) Thurston, April 18, 2019, Indianapolis, IN
'51, Emory G. Lowe Jr., May 24, 2019, Williamsport, MD
'51, Lester M. Selby, June 15, 2019, Bay Village, OH
'51, Billie J. McFarren, July 4, 2019, Dalton, OH
'51, Winifred W. (Watson) Tart, July 20, 2019, Greenwich, CT
'52, James M. Kister, Oct. 13, 2018, Ann Arbor, MI
'52, Marian E. (Freed) Ash, Nov. 6, 2018, Chickasha, OK
'52, Richard R. Hiatt, Jan. 15, 2019, Ontario, CANADA
'52, John H. Visser, April 7, 2019, Wooster, OH
'54, Janet W. (Morrison) Briggs, Feb. 11, 2019, Tarpon Springs, FL
'54, Natalie A. (Johnson) Beidler, March 28, 2019, Tipp City, OH
'55, David H. Griffiths, Feb. 22, 2019, Ballston Spa, NY
'55, Dolores Jean Mountain Miller, March 8, 2019, Lebanon, PA
'55, William E. Stoner, July 3, 2019, Mansfield, OH
'56, Patricia Kressly Taylor, March 17, 2019, Sebring, FL
'56, Robert L. McGuire, April 10, 2019, Pompano Beach, FL
'56, Donald J. Morris, May 6, 2019, Wooster, OH
'56, Mary G. (Gould) Rea, June 8, 2019, Stevensville, MD
'56, John B. Muir, June 26, 2019, Auburn, ME
'57, Marilyn V. (Vaughan) Paulson, Jan. 31, 2019, Sagamore, OH
'58, Robert T. Carter, March 10, 2019, Cornelius, NC
'59, Kenneth W. Anthony, May 25, 2019, Washington, DC
'59, Roger D. Ramseyer, May 29, 2019, Smithville, OH
'60, Barbara F. (Fisher) Stamas, Dec. 26, 2018, Saratoga Springs, NY
'60, William L. Coop, May 24, 2019, Brunswick, ME
'61, Frederick G. Burton, July 1, 2018, Tooele, UT
'62, James W. Kapp, March 13, 2019, Wooster, OH
'62, Damon R. Swank, May 31, 2019, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
'62, Margaret L. (Herold) Brown, July 28, 2019, Pensacola, FL
'65, Alexandra B. Keith, April 10, 2019, Fairfax Station, VA
'66, Eugene J. Grande, April 9, 2019, Wooster, OH
'66, Tate Mason Brewster Hudson, June 16, 2019, Wooster, OH
'67, Robert W. Mann, April 21, 2019, Deerfield, NH
'69, Nancy A. (Morrison) Stowell, July 12, 2019, Hillsborough, NJ
'71, Ronald G. Mayer, Aug. 9, 2019, Slaterstown, RI
'72, Willie K. Jones, Nov. 15, 2018, Cleveland, OH
'72, H.J. Markley, May 22, 2019, Moline, IL
'73, Flora W. (Whitthorne) Flinn, May 23, 2019, Powell, OH
'74, Elizabeth Grace Gottlieb, April 3, 2019, Oak Park, IL
'75, Anne M. (Loveland) Brookie, April 8, 2019, Carmel, IN
'75, Barbara C. (Crooks) Siko, June 15, 2019, Scottsdale, AZ
'78, Susan A. Winchell, March 18, 2019, Silver Spring, MD
Faculty

Glenn Bucher, June 26, 2019, Lititz, PA
Bucher joined Wooster’s faculty in 1970 and was appointed the James F. Lincoln Professor of Religious Studies in 1981. He served two terms as the chair of the department and as dean of faculty from 1985-89. His scholarship included social ethics and the sociology of religion, and he was credited with developing an ethics and society internship program, leading a study-travel seminar to Mexico, directing two student residential program dormitories, and serving on major faculty committees. Bucher went on to be the dean of faculty, vice president of academic affairs, and professor of social ethics at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, and president of the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley, California, from 1992-99. Bucher earned a bachelor’s degree from Elizabethtown College, a master’s in divinity from Union Theological Seminary, and a Ph.D. in the sociology of religion from Boston University.

Floyd Downs, June 19, 2019, Wooster, OH
Downs, a member of the biology faculty at Wooster from 1963-98, taught a number of courses, his favorite being “Vertebrate Natural History,” and served as chair of the department. An expert in herpetology, the branch of zoology dealing with reptiles and amphibians, Downs published a major study of the relationships among a large group of neotropical snakes. Much of his fieldwork took place in Costa Rica, and when a previously unknown species of that group was discovered there, he was honored to have the scientific name be Geophis downsi. Floyd’s research in Ohio in ecology, distribution, and behavior of salamanders, focused on mole salamanders found in the northwestern part of the state. He was editor of Salamanders of Ohio published by the Ohio Biological Survey. Floyd earned his bachelor’s from Cornell University and master’s and Ph.D. in zoology from the University of Michigan.

Larry L. Stewart, June 5, 2019, Wooster, OH
Emeritus professor of English at Wooster, Stewart came in 1967 as an assistant professor of English, was promoted to full professor in 1981, and named the Mildred Foss Thompson Professor of English Language and Literature in 1999, a position he held until his retirement in 2012. He served as chair of the English department, chair of the program in comparative literature, and was a member of the college's teaching staff and tenure committee for almost 25 years. Stewart’s fields of scholarly interest included 18th-century English literature, the novel, and children’s literature. Stewart was a member of the Modern Language Association, presenter at professional conferences, and co-author of A Guide to Literary Criticism and Research, published by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston in 1986. He earned his bachelor’s in English from Simpson College in Indianola, Iowa, and his master’s and doctorate from Case Western Reserve University.

Pablo Valencia, May 10, 2019, Wooster, OH
Valencia was an emeritus professor of Spanish and Italian at Wooster. He was born in Bogota, Colombia, and emigrated to the United States in 1951. Following service in the U.S. Army, during which he became an American citizen, he earned his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Far Eastern languages and literatures, and a doctorate in Romance linguistics, all from the University of Michigan. Valencia joined Wooster’s faculty in 1961 and taught Spanish and Italian languages and linguistics for more than three decades, retiring in 1992. He authored or contributed to several college textbooks, and in 1969 received a Fulbright Award to study and teach at the Instituto Caro y Cuervo in Bogota, Colombia.
Alumni Weekend 2019

Save the Date! Alumni Weekend 2020 June 4-7

Point your phone’s camera here for more photos:
Q. **What is your favorite spot on campus and why?**

We asked you to share the places at Wooster that are important to you and you answered. Thank you to all the alumni who shared their memories on Facebook this summer! Read some of our favorite responses and participate in the next prompt below.

**QUESTION & ANSWERS**

**A.** “So many options! I’ll pick the stairs outside the Kauke Arch facing Oak Grove. The majesty of the trees, the solid base of bricks & Indiana limestone, the intersecting paths as a metaphor for the intertwining lives of students, staff, alumni, and faculty, the combinations of new and renewed buildings in your line of sight speak to the history and beauty of a place special to generations for over 150 years.”  
– Mike Lauber ’80

**A.** “My favorite spot is the Ebert stairs facing Kauke. Such a peaceful place! One of my earliest memories as a first-year was going outside during our drawing class to sketch our surroundings. That will always be a happy place for me!”  
– Danny Groth ’05

**A.** “Scovel hall, specifically the tree ring lab. I spent a lot of time in that building. It was always quiet and plenty of ways to get distracted when working on I.S. or geology labs.”  
– Dan Misinay ’16

**A.** “The hill going down towards the football field, I loved watching the pipe band come over that hill and lead the football team for games in the fall. We also had several outdoor movie nights there, and we used to ‘borrow’ trays from the cafeteria in the winter to sled on it. Good memories!”  
– Jennifer McAndrews ’05

**A.** “Some of my favorite memories are set next to the pit in Lowry, particularly with a roaring fire going on a snowy evening. We used to gather to do homework and (hopefully surreptitiously) people watch.”  
– Alison (Moser) Stuart ’85

**Q.** Lowry cookies, doughnuts, mac and cheese...what was your favorite food on campus?

Send your responses to wooster_magazine@wooster.edu or watch for the contest on Facebook this November. Some lucky contributors will receive prizes that celebrate their Wooster pride!
Like other Wooster graduates, alumni in the military find that their education at Wooster continues to serve them throughout their careers and their lives, and they welcome the opportunity to connect with other alumni who share their experiences serving their country. Along with the Office of Alumni and Family Engagement and alumni from the different branches of the military, 1st Lt. Ethan Flack ’14 (left), U.S. Army, started a motion to develop an affinity group that is bringing together military alumni from all generations.

“We wanted to create a support system within the Wooster community for veterans and their families,” Flack said. “We want all alumni to feel like they have a space to return to.” The new group, Military Alumni of Wooster, includes many serving on active duty or deployed as well as retirees and those who have served in the past. Leaders of the group are working closely with the College to bring members together for events, community service projects, connecting with current students, and more. “We’re looking forward to seeing this community continue to take shape at Wooster and within the alumni community,” said Tom McArthur, assistant vice president for alumni and parent engagement.

Inside, hear from alumni who are currently serving and those who’ve served in the military in the past, and learn more about the affinity group and how to get involved.