John Courter, Berea College organist and professor of music, showed off the expanded range of the College organ during the May 7 “Encore!” rededication of Presser Hall Music Building.
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Front Cover
An American in Venice—Thom Price, ’96, builds gondolas the traditional way at Squero Canaletto, an historic Venetian boatyard he bought and restored.

Photo by Robert McGraw, ’04

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Note to our readers: The mission of Berea College is carried out through activities guided by Berea’s Great Commitments. Berea’s strategic plan, Being and Becoming Berea College in the Twenty-First Century, identifies specific initiatives which the College is implementing to continue its tradition of learning, labor, and service. While all Berea College Magazine articles relate to Berea’s mission, specific articles about the strategic plan initiatives are indicated with the symbol.

(Left) Traditional gondolas dot the canals outside Thom Price’s workshop in Venice.

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When people talk about Berea's student labor program, they almost always emphasize its benefits to our students. They receive outstanding on-the-job experience that impresses potential employers. They learn skills like time management, taking initiative, and pride in work well done. And they even make money to help defray some of their College expenses.

What we don't always remember is how much Berea College benefits from having student workers in our offices, our classrooms, and across campus. When more than 1,000 alumni and friends were in Berea for Summer Reunion, it was student workers who helped them register, prepared and served their food, drove the shuttles to their hotels, and took their photographs. When you see construction and facilities management projects on campus this summer, students are working in the heat to make our facilities better. And when you look through this Berea College Magazine, you'll find most of the photographs were taken by our student photographers. There are even some taken by O’Neil Arnold, '85, a professional photographer in Louisville, Ky., who got his start as a student photographer here.

Every year, Berea's commencement is a joyous time for students, their parents, their teachers, and their labor supervisors. But for those of us who have worked with them, it's bittersweet. This May, all four of my student photographers graduated from Berea. Robert McGraw, '04, an independent graphic arts major from Vienna, West Virginia, had been in the public relations department his entire college career—longer than I have! Elisabeth McGuire, Greg Begin, and Kristina Juodyté each have spent the last two years in public relations. All of them have learned much, but they've also been invaluable contributors to the work we do every day.

This fall, I'll have three new student photographers, and I know they will each contribute greatly to our department. Across campus, labor supervisors will welcome their workers back, and greet their new ones. And next May, I hope we all remember to tell our student colleagues goodbye, good luck, and most importantly, thank you, for making Berea not only a better place to learn, but a wonderful place to work.

Ann Mary Quarandillo
Editor
Retirees Gave 493 Years of Service

A reception in the Woods-Penniman Commons on May 12 honored 16 College retirees who between them had given close to 500 years of service to Berea. Each retiree received either a specially designed clock or woven throw from Berea Student Crafts.

Back row (L-R) Harrie Buswell, scientific instrumentation technician, 8 years; John Crowden, convocations coordinator, 41 years; Trulla Faye Lamb, laundry, 31 years; Darlene Van Winkle, laundry team leader, 33 years; Chester Collins, laundry, 35 years; President Larry D. Shinn.

Front (L-R) Margaret Reppert, R.N., health service, 26 years; Larry Lipchinsky, professor of geology, 40 years; Eileen Hart, Hutchins Library, 23 years; Jim Gage, professor of English, 30 years; Janie Horn, laundry, 48 years; Faye Cummins, Emery building secretary, 15 years.

Not pictured: Bobby Richmond, laundry, 34 years; Bill Schaffer, professor of English, 40 years; Wayne Short, mechanic, facilities management, 27 years; Annette Singleton, Campus Christian Center, 30 years; Roland Wierwille, coach and professor of physical education and health, 32 years.

International Education

Tibetan Monks Visit Berea

Berea College’s special relationship with Tibet’s exiled leaders and an agreement to educate Tibetan refugees made the College a logical stop for a group of Tibetan Buddhist monks from the Tashi Lhunpo monastery who were on a three-month tour in the United States.

Tibetan monks have visited Berea’s campus before, says Alison Garfinkle, international education coordinator for the College. “As a Christian college, it’s nice to create interreligious dialogue,” she explains. “It creates understanding. It creates harmony. It builds a stronger community.”

During their stay, the monks gave lectures on Buddhism, performed sacred music and dances, and built a sand mandala in Hutchins Library (above). The mandala is a carefully constructed design made of millions of grains of colored sand, representing the universe or the mind. After its completion on Saturday, the monks held a closing ceremony where they destroyed the mandala, representing the Buddhist doctrine that all things are impermanent. By spreading the sand into flowing water, they believe it may travel the earth and bring wellbeing to the world.

Berea’s service to the Tibetan refugee community began in 1991 with an agreement developed by former College President John Stephenson and His Holiness, the Dalai Lama, to enroll two Tibetan students each year. The first group of Tibetan students graduated in 1995. This year, eight Tibetan refugees and one ethnic Tibetan from China are enrolled at Berea.

Continuous Learning

Elderhostel is a Place for Learning... and Love!

Nancy Krall of Toledo, Ohio and Walt Neild of Columbia, Tenn., came to Berea’s Elderhostel program last spring to learn about Appalachian culture, and as an added bonus, found love as well. The couple was back on campus in June celebrating their engagement.

Elderhostel programs are one week educational experiences for learners 55 years of age or older. People from across the United States enroll in one of the eight Berea programs offered per year to get a closer look at Appalachian culture and history.

For more information about Elderhostel, contact Berea College Special Programs at 859.985.3854.
**Julia Bonds Featured at Service Convocation**

Julia “Judy” Bonds, an environmental activist and daughter of a West Virginia coal miner, was the keynote speaker for the Service Convocation on April 29. Bonds’ message focused on the environmental degradation and massive flooding currently occurring in the Appalachian region due to mountain top removal. Bonds urged the audience, in particular the students, to take back their earth. “Wisdom is being intelligent enough to find out what you need to survive, the lowest common denominator...air and water,” she said. “If you contaminate your own bed, you will drown in your own waste.”

Bonds is the recipient of the prestigious Goldman Environmental Prize, given to grassroots activists from six geographical regions worldwide. She was honored for her work as the director of Coal River Mountain Watch, which seeks to prevent mountain top removal and watershed contamination.

The annual Service Convocation honors individuals dedicated to serving their communities. At an evening banquet, Service Awards were presented to Dr. John Belanger, Marie Cirillo, and Runyon, '37. Belanger, a family physician, opened the Paint Lick Family Clinic in Garrard Co., Ky., providing quality healthcare to people who do not have health insurance. Cirillo has lived and worked as a community organizer in the Clearfork Valley of Tennessee for over forty years. Runyon, a tenant activist, New York State Assemblywoman, and founder of the Harlem Restoration Project, has dedicated the greater portion of her life to fighting for quality housing for low-income people in Harlem.

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**Napier Honored for Dance Contributions**

At the Country Dancer convocation April 6, Dr. Patrick E. Napier, '49 was honored for his work promoting traditional dance. Napier has been the leading proponent of Kentucky traditional dance since documenting Eastern Kentucky square dance figures in his book, Kentucky Mountain Square Dancing, which has served as the source for many nationally known dance manuals.

“In many ways, the Berea College Country Dancers would not be dancing here today if it were not for Dr. Patrick Napier,” said Dr. Susan Spalding, Berea College director of dance programs. Originally from Perry County, Ky., Napier grew up square dancing with his family. He attended Highland Institute, where he was first exposed to English Country Dancing and Morris Dancing by Berea College’s recreation extension worker Frank Smith, who recruited him for the Country Dancers. While at Berea, Napier began documenting the traditional square dances of Eastern Kentucky.

Since his graduation from Berea, he has taught continuously at Christmas Country Dance School, and has led workshops for students of all ages. Besides documenting and teaching the traditional dances of the Appalachian region, he has given generously of his time and energy in supporting traditional dance. He regularly donates the proceeds from the sale of his book to benefit the Country Dancers or Christmas Country Dance School. His work helped make Berea College an international center for the teaching of traditional dance and for the training of dance leaders.

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**Student Craft Program Honored**

The Berea College Student Craft program was awarded the Kentucky Crafted Emeritus Award on February 29 by the Kentucky Craft Marketing Program, in recognition of Berea’s long-term dedication to craft development and its exemplary level of accomplishment. The craft program was also listed as a lifetime honorary jury participant for events. “They felt that we deserved this wonderful honor,” said Peggy Burgio, coordinator of the student craft program. “It’s really very special for us in the crafts program and for Berea College.”
Heyrman Recognized by the Kentucky Political Science Association

John Heyrman, associate professor of political science and author of “The Electoral College: A Critical Analysis,” received the David Hughes Award for his presentation of the paper at the 2004 meeting of the Kentucky Political Science Association. In the paper, Heyrman analyzed the pro and con arguments for the Electoral College. This is the third time Heyrman has received the award.

Stitzer is New Trustee

Mark Stitzer, managing director and co-founder of Hamlin Capital Management, LLC in New York, was elected to the College’s Board of Trustees in May. Prior to starting his company, he worked at the Trust Company of the West. Earlier, he was a managing director at Edgewood Management Co., a New York investment management firm. From 1984-1995, Stitzer was a director at CS First Boston. He also serves on several foundation boards, and on the executive board of the Greenwich Council, Boy Scouts of America, Inc.

Stitzer earned his bachelor’s degree in history and economics from Pennsylvania State University. His wife, Lucy C. MacMillan Stitzer, is CEO and a member of the board of managers of Hamlin Capital Management. They have three sons.

Encore! Presser Hall is Rededicated

Berea celebrated the newly renovated Presser Hall and Gray Auditorium on May 7 with a performance by students and faculty from the College’s Music Department and remarks by trustees, administrators, and students. More than 100 guests, including trustees, administrators, staff, and students, as well as many Berea residents, attended “Musical Horizons: Expanding Our Vision—The Rededication of Presser Hall and Gray Auditorium.”

In fall 2003, after nearly a year of construction, the newly renovated facilities of Presser Hall and Gray Auditorium opened to serve students. The new facilities provide a state-of-the-art teaching and learning environment that also meets high standards in ecological sustainability. During the dedication, Cassandra Redcorn, one of the few remaining students who was here before the renovations, said, “Overall, Presser Hall is more accessible, brighter, and more lovable than ever before.”

Thanks to a new addition, Presser Hall now is completely handicap accessible and has a restroom on every floor. The building has many more soundproof practice rooms for music students. In order to improve its acoustics, the Gray Auditorium roof was raised fourteen feet higher and the stage was expanded. The organ was moved to the center of the stage, where it had been located when the building was originally constructed.

“Today, Presser Hall and Gray Auditorium retain many distinctive features from the original construction and have added many new features, continuing its legacy of providing an excellent learning and teaching environment,” said Berea College President Larry D. Shinn. “This renovation has brought the building into the 21st century, so current students and faculty can make music they couldn’t make before.”
Louise Hutchins Honored by Kentucky Governor

Gov. Ernie Fletcher and his wife, Glenna, recognized Dr. Louise Gilman Hutchins, wife of former Berea College President Francis S. Hutchins, at a ceremony March 5 aimed at remembering outstanding Kentucky women. Hutchins was one of four women honored in portraits unveiled in the Capitol Rotunda in Frankfort. The honorees were nominated by Kentucky citizens and selected by board members from the Kentucky Commission on Women. Hutchins joins 42 others in the “Kentucky Women Remembered” exhibit in the west wing of the State Capitol.

College Laundry Closes After 100 Years of Service

After losing its largest commercial customer, the Berea College Laundry was forced to close its operations May 31. “We met with the employees of the laundry to see if anything could be done to reduce expenses, increase business, or even raise the rates,” said vice president for business and administration Diane Kerby. “We simply can’t compete with the many large, national firms that have the benefit of volume discount pricing. Losing this major account now puts us in the most unfortunate position of having to close a business that we have operated in this community for more than one hundred years.”

The laundry employed ten workers and three students (above). Five eligible employees retired, while others were considered for vacant positions in other departments at the College.

“We have loved every minute of our work here,” said Darlene Van Winkle, the team leader in the laundry, “The staff has taken a tremendous amount of pride in the work we’ve done and we know that we have served the community to the best of our abilities.”

Lawson Receives Compton Mentorship

Stella Lawson, ’04, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was one of five college graduates nationwide who received a $35,000 Compton Mentor Fellowship. The Compton Foundation created the Mentor Fellows Program in 2002 to support the commitment of graduating college seniors as they move beyond academic preparation to focus on real world involvement and contribution. Lawson’s project focuses on the establishment of a healthy, sustainable food store and community kitchen in Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco. She will be working with youth community organizers in the promotion of food security in one of California’s most environmentally polluted communities.

Lawson, a dual major in women’s studies and agriculture and natural resources, has been involved in environmental preservation since she was in high school. Her mentor, Dana Lanza, M.D., founded Literacy for Environmental Justice (LEJ) at the age of 28. Lawson’s time as an LEJ intern piqued her interest even more. “Working on social justice as well as environmental issues became a real passion for me from then on,” she says.

Combining the two issues is critical. “One of the most important ways to deal with that is healthy food,” Lawson explains. “Right now the community doesn’t have access to healthy food. There are a lot of liquor stores, but you have to take two buses to get to the grocery store.”

After her fellowship year, Lawson plans to earn a Ph.D., and then return home to continue her involvement in promoting sustainable and just change in the world.

Sustainability

Lawson Receives Compton Mentorship
Outstanding Student-Athletes Honored

Three outstanding athletes were honored for their accomplishments on and off the field with the 2004 athletics awards.

Charles Marshall, ’04, an industrial technology major from Louisville, Ky., and senior leader of the men’s basketball team, received the C.H. Wyatt Award, honoring the longtime Berea basketball coach. Marshall averaged 18.3 points per game and was named KIAC 1st Team All Conference and NAIA Honorable Mention All-American, while leading the team to a berth in the NAIA national tournament for the first time since 2000.

The Minnie Maud Macauley Award, given in honor of the late women’s athletics leader at Berea, was awarded to Jessica Dirr, ’05, a track and volleyball star from Goshen, Ohio. Dirr, a child and family studies major, has broken the Berea College shot put record several times, with a record throw of 12.43 meters.

Ashley Miller, ’05, a nursing major from Louisville, received the 6th annual Coach Roland Wierwille Athletic Award. The award, given in honor of the former Berea head basketball coach, recognizes students whose character reflects a sense of discipline, dedication, and determination both on and off the athletic field. Team captain of the women’s basketball team for the past three seasons while maintaining a 3.73 GPA, Miller has led the conference in rebounds, and this year finished fourth in the nation in offensive rebounds and joined Berea’s 500 rebound club. In 2003, she was named to the 1st team All-KIAC and NAIA South Independent Regional Teams.

Baseball’s Warner is All-Conference

New Mountaineers coach A. Maines, ’02, took on a challenge this year with the loss of six seniors. The young team did have some bright spots, however. Infielder Chad Warner, ’07, was named 1st team KIAC All-Conference and nominated for NAIA national player of the week. Warner also broke Berea’s consecutive hits record with 11. Maines is looking on the bright side. “There is always room for improvement,” he says. “We’ll mature as a team together, and turn it around for Berea.”

Eckford, Luckiewicz Shine in Nationals

Jamie Eckford, ’04, finished 3rd in the nation in the 200 meters with a time of 21.42 at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Track & Field Championships, held May 27-29 at Cardinal Park in Louisville, Ky. For the second time in his career, he achieved NAIA All-American status. Eckford broke his own Berea College record in the 200 meters which he had set at the Berea Twilight meet in April. He also advanced to the national semifinals in the 100 and 400 meters.

The men’s 4x800 meter relay team of Matt Schenk, ’05, Shawn Jakubowski, ’06, Joseph Kimeau, ’05, and David Webster, ’07 also advanced to nationals, and Schenk was named an NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete.

On the women’s side, the highlight for the Lady Mountaineers was junior Izabela Luckiewicz’s 11th place finish in the 3,000 meter steeplechase at the NAIA nationals (see page 22). She was also named an NAIA All-America Scholar Athlete. Jessica Dirr, ’05, broke the College record in the shot put during the Cardinal Open in April.

Softball Team Boasts Nine All-Conference

The Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletics Conference (KIAC) 2004 All-Conference teams included nine Lady Mountaineers. Tarah Carnefix, ’04, (3rd base), Jennifer Crabtree, ’07, (right field), Daisha Crabtree, ’06, (pitcher), and Jessica Burke, ’07, (at-large) were named first team All-Conference. Shannon Sommers, ’04, (2nd base), Johnna Whittamore, ’06, (shortstop), Veronica Livers, ’06, (catcher), Mkenzie Wells, ’06, (pitcher), and Erica Redmon, ’06, (at-large) made second team. Daisha Crabtree and Veronica Livers were also nominated for NAIA National Player of the Week in May.

“The leadership on this year’s team has been strong,” says coach Scott Buchanan. “I think it’s the best team we’ve had.”

The Lady Mountaineers led the conference with a .335 batting average, and Jessica Burke was the top hitter, with a .469 average. They won their first two games in the KIAC tournament before falling in the semifinals to 19th ranked Brescia University, whom they had beaten earlier in the tournament. They finished the season fourth in the conference with a record of 18-12.
Greater Efforts, Grander Victories
Berea Celebrates Commencement

Civil rights activist Julian Bond told the story of his grandfather, James Bond, who was born a slave in 1863 Kentucky, graduated from Berea College in 1892 and went on to a successful career as a minister and teacher, as he urged the class of 2004 to use all they have learned at Berea for “greater efforts, grander victories,” in their own lives and the lives of others.

“Greater Efforts, Grander Victories,” was the title, and the theme, of both Julian Bond’s speech, and that of his grandfather, who spoke at his own graduation from Berea 102 years ago.

“Greater efforts and grander victories - that was the promise made by the generation born in slavery a century and a half ago,” said Bond. “That was the promise made by the generation that fought the great World War for democracy six decades ago. That was the promise made by those who brought democracy to America’s darkest corners four decades ago, and that is the promise you must seek to honor as you leave the ceremonies and enter the world beyond.”

Bond’s remarks preceded the awarding of degrees to 240 seniors and recognition of an additional 17 students who will graduate at the end of the summer term. Berea also awarded an honorary degree to Bond and to distinguished Kentucky journalist, broadcaster, and publisher Albert P. Smith.

Bond was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws in recognition of his achievements in the field of civil rights and as an historian. Since 1998, Bond has served as chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He helped found the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), registering voters in the Deep South, and was the first African American elected to the Georgia General Assembly. Bond holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Morehouse College.

Smith, who was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of humane letters, edited and operated weekly newspapers in Kentucky and Tennessee for more than 30 years. Currently, he is the producer and has been host since 1974 of “Comment on Kentucky,” Kentucky Educational Television’s longest running public affairs program. He also has written and produced numerous award-winning documentaries for KET. He served as the Federal co-chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission during the Carter and Reagan administrations. Smith served as a Berea Trustee from 1983-89.

Commencement Honors

Berea’s highest faculty honor—the Seabury Award for Excellence in Teaching—was presented this year to Andrew Baskin, ‘72, associate professor of Black Studies and General Studies. He also has taught in the history department at Berea and is a former director of the College’s Black Cultural Center. For many years, Baskin has been editor of The Griot, the journal of the Southern Conference on African American Studies. Currently, he serves as Vice President of the Kentucky African American Heritage Commission. Baskin, who joined Berea’s faculty in 1983, earned his masters degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

Barbara Power, ’56, head of circulation at Hutchins Library, received the 2004 Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for Community Service. A faculty member since 1981, Power was recognized for her work as a mentor to current students and alumni, the annual “Food for Fines” drive she organizes at the library, and her work with the New Opportunity School for Women and First Christian Church.

Janice Blythe, professor of child and family studies, and a Berea faculty member since 1986, received the Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising.

The Hilda Welch Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a female student went to Laura Rodrian, of Waddy, Ky., who received a bachelor of arts in English. The T. J. Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a male student went to Matthew Turner of Berea, who received a bachelor of arts in religion.

Photos by David Stephenson
My Favorite Year

For 16 Years, Berea’s Watson Fellows Have Learned to Inspire

By Julie Sowell

This June, Kelly Cutchin, ’04, left her home in Presque Isle, Maine for a year-long journey that will take her far from home, but closer to her dream of starting a natural building school and ecological design resource center.

As the recipient of a $22,000 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, Cutchin, who majored in Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) and German at Berea, will be studying traditional building systems and their application to modern ecological design—architecture that is responsive to place and works with nature. Traveling to Turkey, Tunisia, South Africa, Japan and Italy, Cutchin will be observing the traditional building systems that have evolved in each country. She’ll also work with local builders to learn the craft of their traditional construction methods.

“I’ll be looking at the really old structures or the traditional building styles that are still standing and seeing how we can save this knowledge that’s getting lost in a lot of places,” says Cutchin. “Ecological design used to be a matter of necessity because people couldn’t transport materials long distances. I want to apply what I learn to have the best from the past and the best of the present to build a better future.”

The Watson Fellowship that is making all of this possible was one of 50 awarded nationwide this year to graduating seniors at 50 of America’s top private liberal arts colleges and universities. Winners are selected on the basis of character, leadership potential, willingness to immerse themselves in new cultures, and the personal significance of the project proposed. Of the many international study opportunities Berea offers its students, the Watson Fellowship is unique, says Suzanne Kifer, associate director of Berea’s International Center.

“There’s really no other post-graduate fellowship quite like it,” explains Kifer. “The support of creativity and independent travel is very unusual. The intent is that someone has this one opportunity in their life when they’re kind of unencumbered, because they’re just leaving an undergraduate program and not getting started in graduate study yet, to follow their passion, an interest in something they’ve been pursuing for a long time.”

Since 1988, when Berea became involved in the program, 22 Berea students have been awarded Fellowships and 20 spent a year as Watson Fellows (two students declined the fellowship). They’ve studied women artists in Jamaica, education in refugee camps, monastic gardening, medicinal plants in South America, the craft of guitar making, and vernacular architecture. The lives Berea’s Watson Fellows are pursuing today are as different as their Watson projects and the largely unpredictable experiences they had. But without exception, all of the students who shared this unique distinction say it was a wonderful, life-changing adventure they wouldn’t have traded for... well, the world.
An American in Venice
Thom Price, ’96

For some students like Cutchin, a Watson project is directly related to the career they are pursuing. For others, like Thom Price, ’96, it’s an opportunity to switch gears for a while and intensively study a topic of personal interest.

After earning a degree in Appalachian Studies, Price applied for a Watson Fellowship to expand his growing interest and skills in traditional boatbuilding, studying the art and craft of gondola building in Venice, Italy. The experience changed the course of his life in a way he never imagined.

Price stayed in Venice, kept building gondolas and learning the business. Recently, the only American gondola builder became the first American to own his own gondola yard, one of only six in the whole city. “I’ve fallen in love with boat building,” he says. “And there’s no city in the world like Venice for traditional boatbuilding.”

This past January, he launched the first gondola built at Squero Canaletto, the historic boatyard he bought and restored, a property made famous in Canaletto’s 1724 painting Rio dei Mendicanti. Price has big plans for the future that include workshops, two new boat designs, and do-it-yourself boat kits.

The story of the “American gondola builder” is so unlikely — and unique — that he’s been featured in the New York Times, Time magazine, ABC, CBS Sunday Morning, People magazine, National Public Radio, and most recently on the Home and Garden TV network’s “Do It Yourself” (DIY) channel. There’s even a biography-based movie on the horizon.

Price had never been on a boat before he built his first one in 1991. Then a sophomore at Berea, his enthusiasm for his studies had flagged and he felt he needed to do something else for a while. He spent two years at The Carpenter’s Boat Shop in Maine, where he was given room and board and instruction in building traditional wooden boats in exchange for work. He then returned to Berea to finish his degree.

His Watson project was inspired by an article he read in Wooden Boat magazine. What impressed him, he remembers, was the antiquity of the gondola, its importance in the life of Venice, and most important, that the art of gondola building was dying out. In the fifteenth century, at the height of its popularity, there were as many as 10,000 gondolas in Venice and 500 makers. Now there are about 500 gondolas in use in Venice and only five gondola makers.

Price’s Watson year went well after he overcame some initial challenges. After completing a six-week Italian language course in Florence, he went on to Venice to start looking for someone to teach him how to build gondolas. Armed only with a list of gondola builders, eventually he found Daniele Bonaldo, a builder nearing retirement, who agreed to work with him.

“He took me on when no one else would,” Price recalls. “By that time I had learned a little bit more Italian and I went to him with an introduction. I think that made a lot of difference, rather than just being this young American college kid that wants to waste your time.”

By the time he had completed building his first gondola his fellowship year was up. It wasn’t until then that he realized how much he wanted to stay on and began working on how he could do it. “It was pretty much at the last minute that I decided I would stay,” he explains. “I found a job, got my papers in order, and I’ve been here ever since.”

At first, he worked as a general woodworker, and to supplement his income he also set himself up as a tour guide for English speaking tourists. Over the next several years, even without his own workshop, Price managed to build and sell five more gondolas. Then everything changed dramatically.

“This past year I went from being an employee of someone else to working for myself but without having a space to work in,” he says. “I was borrowing shop space. Now I have a 4,000 sq. ft. boatyard and five employees. It’s kind of a big responsibility.”

With 14 more years left on his mortgage, Price won’t be leaving Venice anytime soon. For him, Venice feels like home.

“I have some friends who live near the boatyard who always come by and see what’s going on — a group of older men in their 60s and 70s. At Easter they had a lunch among friends and invited me and my workers to come over. It

Thom Price’s gondolas attract tourists to his shop and the canals of Venice. See more of his boatyard at www.squero.com.
was such a good feeling because here’s a group of older men who you think might be less accepting of young foreigners, but they treat us just like we’re their family.”

Price came to Venice to learn how to build gondolas and is now being sought out as a teacher. As the only gondola maker in Venice under the age of 60, Price says his age (he’s 33) and a more modern approach may be why. Whatever the reason, it’s good for the future of the gondola.

“I love the gondola,” he says. “And I want it to survive.”

If he hadn’t received a Watson Fellowship eight years ago, what would he be doing now? Price hasn’t given the question much thought. He’s been too busy.

Discovering Her Roots
Della Justice Price, ’93

A desire to explore the roots of her own culture motivated Della Justice Price, ’93, to apply for a Watson Fellowship. Thanks to additional funds provided by the Watson Foundation to allow family members to accompany recipients, Price’s husband, Troy, ’92, traveled with her to Scotland and Ireland to find the people and traditions that shaped the cultural traditions of Appalachia. A native of Pikeville, in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, Price had a deep attachment to her heritage and her region, and to what had been a way of life for her grandmother. Now an attorney who returned to Pikeville to live four years ago, Price says she was a little naïve at first about how easy her quest would be.

“I guess I thought I would see ‘Appalachian Heritage’ on the street corner,” recalls Price. Edinburgh, however, was “a cosmopolitan city that reflected Appalachia about as much as New York City did,” she says. After making use of the city’s archival and library facilities, she and Troy then relocated to the small town of Ayr on Scotland’s west coast, home of the lowland Scots who eventually settled in Appalachia. After six months there they moved to Northern Ireland, or Ulster, from where the Scots-Irish immigrated to America in the 1700s. Living there and researching the area’s history and culture gave Price new insights into the continuing conflict in Northern Ireland.

As they became involved in activities, both she and Troy were overwhelmed with the kindness and generosity of the people there, and it’s where she began to find what she’d come looking for. Taking part in village life, teaching in the schools, and even volunteering as tour guides at the Ulster-American Folk M useum, they found that people young and old were also interested in learning from them about cultural traditions in Appalachia.

O’Neil Arnold, ’85

O’Neil Arnold, ’85

The Justice Law Firm stands in the shadow of Pikeville’s majestic mountains.
Ruth Phelps lida, '88
The Role of Women in the Pre-Raphaelite Art Movement—England
During the year, she became interested in Japanese culture and language after becoming friends with a group of Japanese students. Today, she lives in Kanagawa, Japan with her husband, Kei, a college professor, and her children Ellen and Clayton. She teaches English in the local elementary schools and runs her own English school from her home.

"The most important thing about the Watson Fellowship is that students are really treated like adults. You go with the expectation that you can handle the responsibility and there’s no one looking over your shoulder. I don’t even regret the mistakes I made because I learned so much from them."

Jonathan King, '89
Desert Water Retrieval Systems—Israel, Egypt, Burkina Faso
Following his Watson year, King spent four more years in Burkina Faso, helping villagers with water retrieval and conservation projects. He lives in Chicago with his wife Rosalie Bouchie-King, '90, and their children Ruth and Jacob. He works in missions with inner-city children.

C. Paige Powell Beichler, '90
Two Contemporary Jamaican Women Artists and the Effect of Jamaican History and Culture on Their Work—Jamaica
Beichler, an art history major, was accompanied by her family during her Watson year in Jamaica. "Actually going in and seeing art work, where it happens, in the culture where it was made, gave me a completely different perspective about art from what I had experienced. She is currently a full-time mother, living near Berea with her husband Andy, '91, and four children: Jack, Mackenzie, Lillian, and Clare. She served as executive director of the Madison County Children’s Action Network, and was instrumental in creating the Madison County Boys & Girls Club.

Ania Miller Van Gessel, '90
The European Community (EC) and Economic Development in Eastern Europe—Belgium, Eastern Europe
A dual major in business administration and Spanish, Van Gessel, a native of Poland, planned to pursue her interest in International Commerce and Diplomacy after completing her Watson Fellowship.

Andrew Michael Scott, '90
State-controlled Education Systems—Costa Rica, Cuba, Nicaragua
A math education major, Scott planned to become a high school math teacher. Before coming to Berea, he learned to be an electrician and taught math, science, and applied electricity in the Peace Corps in Sierra Leone. At Berea, he valued the integration of academics, work, and service. In his Watson project, he hoped to explore the relationship between education and the needs of society.

Melody Linette Crawford, '91
The Dairy Industry in New Zealand and Australia—New Zealand, Australia
Crawford, an agriculture major, had never traveled outside the United States before applying for a Watson Fellowship. After earning a masters degree in animal science from the University of Tennessee, she returned to her home community of Weaverville, N.C. where she lives on top of a mountain overlooking the farm where she grew up. Crawford has two sisters who also graduated from Berea—Suzette, '95, and Lydia, '97. She works for the Biltmore Estate, where she has worked her way up from picking grapes to her current position managing 50 employees as director of parking and transportation. "Berea taught me to get along with people from different cultures and taught me that I’m no better than anyone else. We’re all created equal, and given an opportunity, we can excel."

Kimberly Earle Parker
Sebranek, '91
The Role of Philosophical Thought in Eastern Bloc Countries as They Meet with the West—Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, East Germany
A philosophy major, Sebranek thought her Watson Fellowship, focused on countries transitioning from communism to democracy, was another stepping stone to becoming a philosophy professor. Her experience was very different than she’d expected and helped redirect her career path. “It was a very eye-opening experience,” she says. “I was intent on philosophical inquiry and what I ended up doing was living a whole different type of existence and speaking with people on a much more human level, people from a variety of backgrounds and educational levels and outlook.” She earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin, and is now a partner with Eustice, Laffey & Sebranek attorneys in Sun Prairie, Wis., where she specializes in commercial law. She and her husband Alan, and children Lukas and Trevor, live in Sun Prairie.

Matthew Saderholm, '92
Currently an assistant professor of chemistry at Berea, Saderholm was awarded a Watson to study environmental damage in Germany but instead accepted a Fulbright Fellowship in Switzerland which gave him the opportunity to study with a Nobel Prize winner in chemistry. He lives in Berea with his wife, Angela Anderson, '93, and daughter Sophia.

Della Mae Justice Price, '93
Exploring the Roots of Appalachian Culture—Scotland, Northern Ireland
Price is an attorney in her hometown of Pikeville, Ky., where she lives with her husband, Troy, her niece, Anna, and nephew, Will. During her Watson, she traveled to Scotland and Northern Ireland researching the roots of Appalachian culture.

Douglas Alan Boals, '93
A Study of Medieval, Gothic, and Early Renaissance Art and Architecture and its Relation to Spiritual Life and Community Values—Spain, France, Italy
Boals, an art education major, was an experienced artist and craftsman in his late 30s when he graduated from Berea. His Watson Fellowship was designed to enhance his knowledge and understanding of art, to better prepare him as a teacher and to inspire him as an artist. Today he teaches at the Brown Academy for Classical Studies, a public K-5 magnet school in Chattanooga, Tenn. where classical literature, art, architecture, history, and music are used to teach lessons in its innovative curriculum. He, his wife Jacqueline Weill Boals, '93, and their children Zoe and Benjamin, live in Chattanooga.

J. Richard Abbott, '94
Botanical Investigations and Explorations in Latin America—Panama, Ecuador, Galapagos Islands, Bolivia, Colombia
Abbott, who earned a biology degree at Berea, undertook what he called “a Marco Polo
journey of the 1990s, not for fame or riches, but for knowledge, for experience, for personal growth, for my place in the world.” He sought to learn as much as he could about cultures and plants of Latin America, including any medical and economic uses, and whether a career in botany was really for him. Since returning, he’s earned a master’s degree and is pursuing a Ph.D. in botany at the University of Florida, where he also works at the University Herbarium. This summer, Abbott is doing research in Cuba and plans on a career in tropical botanical research.

James Irvin King, ’95
Challenges of Refugee Education—Kenya
King majored in mathematics at Berea, preparing to become a teacher. During his Watson year he taught in a village school and worked with refugees in Kenya, and also studied the refugee situation in Jordan and Uganda. Afterward, he taught two years in Cyprus. Having grown up in the Middle East, where he attended both Arab and Jewish schools, King brings an international perspective to his current job as a high school math teacher near Washington, D.C.

Thomas Francis Price, ’96
A study of the Dying Art of Gondola Building—Italy
Berea’s first independent Appalachian Studies major, Price studied gondola building in Venice, Italy, where he has remained and continues building gondolas and teaching the art to others from his own gondola yard, Squero Caneletto.

Rudolphe A. Gelis, ’97
A Study of Bird Diversity in Central and South America—Mexico, Costa Rica, Ecuador
Gelis, a biology major at Berea, ended up traveling to Argentina, Chile, the Falkland Islands, Bolivia, Brazil, Poland, Switzerland, France, Austria, and Germany during his Watson year. “I could write a book about all the people, places, and experiences that will remain vivid memories, including climbing a 60 foot high vertical rockface in the Andes to reach a condor’s nest.” He now lives in Ecuador, where he is a professional guide and published bird researcher. “Although the Watson Fellowship financial support ran out a long time ago, I feel like I am on the same mission as that blissful year. The Watson gave me the wings to fly and I am still soaring.”

Amanda Maerz Young, ’98
Pagan Gods and Christian Saints: An Irish Love Story?—Ireland
An art history major and of Irish ancestry, Young studied the melding of Irish Celtic mythology, tradition, and symbolism with Christianity in the art and architecture of early medieval Ireland.

Sustainable Dairy Practices—England, Scotland, Ireland
Smith, who majored in agriculture at Berea, earned her master’s in animal science from the University of Wisconsin after returning from her study in Europe. Now she is applying her science background at the physiology department of the University of Kentucky Medical School, where she is in charge of experiments related to a project studying ways to reduce muscle atrophy, a problem for astronauts in space. This research also has implications for treatment of muscle-wasting diseases such as Muscular Dystrophy. She plans eventually to complete a Ph.D. and return to agricultural work, but says for now “I’m learning new things. I get to do something new every day and I like that.”

J. Eric Cox, ’99
Exploring the Traditional Irish Woodwinds—Ireland, Scotland
Cox studied traditional Irish music and instrument making in Ireland during his Watson year and became interested in the acoustics of instruments. A math major at Berea, he earned his masters degree in acoustical physics from Eastern Illinois University and now lives in Chicago, working as an acoustical consultant, where he applies his expertise to the design and building of concert halls and other buildings. “During my Watson year, most importantly I found the spirit of the Celtic people. I was immersed in this culture long enough to soak up its essence. . . This greater understanding of the culture has really allowed me to find and explore something that was missing in my own playing and musical expression.”
Chris Fleming, '99
Ethnobotany: Rediscovering Humanity's Dependence on Plants—Ecuador, Peru
Fleming, a biology major, studied medical plants and traditional medicine men in South America during his Watson, traveling to Mexico, Belize, Honduras, and Bolivia in addition to Ecuador and Peru. The experience opened his eyes to the problem of deforestation and other landscape change issues and the need for sustainable plant resources in that area of the world. Since then, he has earned his master's in botany from the University of Tennessee and returned to Ecuador and Peru where he assisted with a National Geographic sponsored project. He is an environmental consultant with Nashville-based Breedlove, Dennis, Young and Associates. "I learned a lot about life there and about myself. It just makes you a stronger person when you don't have strong emotional bonds with a lot of other people. It's a lot of thinking, looking deep inside yourself."

Micah Johnson, '00
The Evolution of Contemporary Socialism—Germany, France
Johnson, a political science major, studied the evolution of contemporary socialism in Germany and France during his Watson year. He and his wife, Tina Marie Nelson Johnson, '97, live in Berea with their children.

Derek Law, '01
Monastic Gardens and the Contemplative Practice of Labor—England, Belgium, France, India, Thailand, Japan
Law, a former merchant seaman and an agriculture major at Berea, spent his Watson year visiting monasteries in Europe and Asia, exploring how the monks used gardening as meditation. He was in France when Sept. 11 occurred, but other than having to exclude some areas of India near the Pakistan border, his Watson travels were not disrupted. He is currently in a masters degree program in soil science at the University of Kentucky where he also does field research, and lives in Harrodsburg, Ky. His long-term plans include becoming an organic vegetable and flower farmer.

Marissa Hutchinson, '02
Capturing the Vanishing Vernacular: a Hands-On Experience—Mongolia, China, Laos
Hutchinson spent her Watson year studying vernacular architecture in central Asia, working beside native people and learning building traditions firsthand. After her return, she joined an apprenticeship program with a furniture maker in Maine.

Anthony Honeycutt, '03
South American Guitar Making: How It Is Changing Due to Deforestation—Mexico, Brazil, Venezuela, Argentina, Canada
Honeycutt’s Watson project combined his academic interest in conservation biology with his personal music interests. A biology major at Berea, he sought out craftsmen who make stringed instruments and learned about alternative woods for instrument-making, hoping to discover woods that can be managed and harvested in an ecologically sound manner. He says the real bonus has been the Spanish fluency he has gained. "When I began this project, my Spanish skills were rudimentary at best. But nine months traveling and living in Latin America has allowed my speaking ability to grow tremendously. This ability to participate in and initiate conversation has been the single most important aspect of my year, and has allowed me to gain perspectives on world economics and politics that would have been impossible any other way."

Kelly Cutchin, '04
Traditional Buildings and their Application to Modern Ecological Design—South Africa, Tunisia, Turkey, Japan, and possibly Italy
Cutchin will observe the traditional building systems there that have evolved as a response to ecology and culture and whenever possible, work with local builders to learn these traditional building techniques. Cutchin, who dual majored in sustainability and environmental studies and German, was active in the SENS program on campus and in the design and construction of the Berea College Ecovillage. She plans a career in natural building design and construction.
(Continued from page 13)

head. Price is the great granddaughter of Hatfield clan patriarch “Devil” Anse Hatfield of Hatfield-McCoy Feud fame, but she represented the McCoy family—and won—in a recent civil dispute over cemetery rights. Price says she’s enjoyed the ironic humor in being the McCoy family champion.

“I got an award from the McCoy family called The Real McCoy Award even though I’m a Hatfield,” she laughs. She still feels some pride being related to a person of note in the region, but it won’t cause any conflict of interest.

“It’s just Appalachian history now,” Price explains. “The families buried the hatchet a few years ago. Now instead of fighting with guns they’re fighting in the courts, which is how they should have done it all along.”

**An Opportunity to Serve Jonathan King, ’89**

Jonathan King’s Watson project wasn’t so much about what he could learn for himself or about himself. Instead, it was about how he could apply what he learned that year to help other people. The passion he was following was a desire to serve others.

As the son of American missionaries in Israel, King, along with brothers David, ’89, and James, ’95, attended both Arab and Jewish schools. As a child he had begun experimenting with growing plants in his arid environment using little water, and as a teenager had helped set up irrigation systems that made the Israeli desert bloom. After earning his degree in agriculture in 1989, he spent his year as a Watson Fellow studying water retrieval systems that he thought could be useful to people living in poor, arid countries.

“I was always interested in working in poor countries where there wasn’t enough rainfall,” King recalls. “I wanted to be in a place where people are literally starving and the little bit that I did was really going to help somebody.” King first traveled to Israel, Jordan, and Egypt, where he studied successful water systems, then to Burkina Faso, Nigeria, and Mali, to study how these systems could be applied there.

“The Watson gave me the opportunity to see what was being done in the desert areas of Israel and the other countries where they have some of the leading technology,” he says. “In the poorest countries, you can’t use that same technology, but you can create practical applications of it.”

When the year was over, King returned to the United States, where he married Berea classmate Rosalie Bouchie, ’89, and earned a masters degree in biblical studies. Shortly after, he returned to Burkina Faso with Rosalie, continuing the work he had begun as a Watson Fellow, helping villagers build dams and wells, staying for four years.

Jonathan, Rosalie, and their daughter Ruth, born in Burkina Faso, returned to the United States in 1997, after King suffered 12 bouts with malaria that year. He and Rosalie were looking for a new direction when they heard about a position as a youth pastor in an inner city/prison ministry working with gang kids.

“I had some background working with kids, so we ended up going to Chicago, working with a ministry there, and now I work with inner-city kids,” King explains. “A lot of patterns of inner city culture—living day by day, not planning for the future—are the same as an African situation where you’re just trying to figure out what you’re going to eat today. There are a lot of similar issues.”

His work with the non-denominational, faith-based Child Evangelism Fellowship varies, but a typical week during the school year includes teaching a course at Moody Bible Institute for students doing practical ministry in the city and working with 20 “Good News Clubs” in neighborhoods and schools on the city’s near north side that offer elementary age kids an alternative to gangs.

At Cabrini-Green, a soon to be demolished housing project in one of Chicago’s most drug-infested neighborhoods, there are six Good News Clubs. Recently, the clubs there had to stop meeting because of violence between rival gangs. Shooting was taking place outside the rec rooms where the clubs meet, and some children were being shot at while trying to enter. In addition to overseeing the clubs and leading some himself,
King said he’s also called in to help with problems that flare up at Cabrini-Green.

As bad as the gangs are, King said he can understand their appeal. “Kids need to belong,” he says. “These kids don’t belong to a family, so they have to go somewhere. The gangs provide that. I see why they belong, and I don’t really blame them. What we’re doing is offering them something else besides the gangs.”

Interestingly, it’s not just kids who are being reached before they join a gang. King was mediating a situation in an apartment at Cabrini-Green when gang members asked him if he’d start a club for them. Now there are several. “It’s a different dynamic altogether,” says King. “The average age of gang kids is 25, they’re not teenagers.” And they don’t hold regular meetings in the best of times. “We don’t initiate a meeting. They initiate and we respond.” With the current violent situation, the clubs are on hold indefinitely.

King is philosophical about his work and isn’t intimidated by the surroundings. “My wife worries sometimes, and I know there’s a fine line between courage and stupidity,” he says. “But when I go down to gang territory and I see right in front of me there’s a drug deal going on, and I know people are being killed all the time —I don’t have fear. I feel like I’m in the right place and doing the right thing.”

For now, it’s enough that there are some successes.

“There are some kids who’ve come out of a gang and some are going to college. Other kids are in high school now and they’re starting their own clubs,” he says. “They’re creating the community they don’t have in their homes, and without having to go to a gang.

King figures when it’s time to move on to other work, he and Rosalie will know it. “We are seeking what God wants us to do and going year by year, month by month. Right now we feel like inner city Chicago is where that is.”

Building Her Future
Kelly Cutchin, ’04

When Kelly Cutchin’s Watson year ends next summer, she’ll be faced with decisions about her future, too. One option is to apply for an internship at a school in Vermont that teaches natural design and building and timber frame construction for more instruction and more experience in leading workshops. She also hopes to get into the natural building network in the northeast and see what kind of job offers might follow. At present, interest outstrips the number of people to teach these skills.

“People want to learn some of these natural building techniques but they don’t know where to turn,” Cutchin explains. She learned this herself after leading several natural building workshops at Berea. “I had people calling me after reading about the workshops in the newspaper,” she says. They asked her to build two-story straw-bale garages, offered her jobs as a construction foreman, and as a guest instructor for another workshop. All of this will lead to starting a natural building school and resource center in Maine, Cutchin hopes. “It all has to do with providing really comfortable, safe places for people to be.”

Cutchin first learned about ecological design as a freshman at Berea. In addition to coursework and working for the Sustainability and Environmental Studies program, Cutchin was involved with the Berea College Ecovillage. She helped design the SENS demonstration house, where she lived for a semester, led natural building workshops, and designed and led construction of the information kiosk.

This year, she’ll just be trying to soak up all she can in all of the places she’ll be going.

“I think my whole job for the year as a Watson Fellow is to be inspired,” Cutchin says. “It’s amazing to have all that time and the resources just for that.”
In the interest of full disclosure, I have to admit I am a city girl who was dragged, kicking and screaming, by her parents to live in “the Garden Spot of America” as it was known back then. And today, I would bet that none of my Amish friends in Lancaster, Pennsylvania would have a clue what I was talking about if I congratulated them on living sustainable lives. Sustainable living can be taken for granted by those who for generations have lived that way, and it most certainly can be re-awakened in communities where it has lain dormant. People can live a sustainable life without ever uttering the word ‘sustainable.’ Bottom line: It is a life lived for today with an eye on giving future generations the same or better life’s circumstances. And it can be fun.

One wonders what Berea founder John G. Fee or President William Goodell Frost would think if they were to step foot in Berea College’s nearly completed Ecovillage. Berea, from its founding in 1855, has not only taught, but learned from, the people of the mountains. Frost’s devotion to “Appalachian America” and its youth was critical to the College’s commitment to the region. Frost’s devotion to “Appalachian America” and its youth was critical to the College’s commitment to the region. Since that time, a number of forces have come together to create a unique and holistic approach to interdisciplinary learning and service to the southern Appalachian area.

Today, Berea continues to serve Appalachian communities in both traditional and contemporary ways. Berea students learn to preserve their cultural heritage through the Appalachian Center Artifacts & Exhibits Studio, integrate service to the region through the Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service, develop community leadership potential through the Brushy Fork Institute, and think creatively about economic issues through the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good program.

The Sustainability and Environmental Studies program (SENS) helps students and community members learn new ways to reduce their impact on the environment. This semester, visionary professors from the Appalachian Center and the SENS program developed “Sustainable Appalachian Communities,” an inaugural course specifically formulated to directly connect sustainability course work to the Appalachian region.

“I designed this particular course on sustainable Appalachian communities because I felt like there was a real gap that needed to be filled,” explains Lori Briscoe-Pennington, one of the instructors for the course and associate director of the Appalachian Center. “We need to be talking about sustainability and Appalachia together as one entity. I felt that we should have something that said ‘here is a course that addresses what sustainability has to do with Appalachia here and now.’”
Richard Olson, director of the SENS program and co-instructor for the course, agrees. “We are teaching a model of living. People from the region come here to see how they can make their counties more sustainable. Our students will learn here and take back home with them not only the knowledge of the problem but how to make a difference.”

One of the strategic goals of the class was to create a service learning project that would directly benefit people of the region. “Sustainability is a populist movement for change, but we haven’t been able to overcome the language barriers or access to knowledge and education,” says Briscoe-Pennington. “When I was in graduate school, I learned a great deal from a local man whose whole job was to make sustainability a practical thing connected to the community where he lived. Here at Berea, we really wanted to do something that would immediately benefit the region and the people living here. Through the class, we wanted to create a sustainable development movement project that would speak directly to our students and to the region.”

The Resource Notebook website was the answer. The site is an ever-evolving online meeting place full of Appalachian regional information and sustainability links. Its goal is to act as a clearing house, benefiting everyone from grade school students to families to professionals working in the field. Briscoe-Pennington doesn’t know of another website that specifically addresses Appalachian communities. A big proponent of removing the elitism and jargon that can be associated with sustainability, she envisions the website as a treasure chest for practical, down-to-earth, ‘place-based’ community assets and idea exchange.

The students who have generated content for the site are as different as the communities they plan to serve. They are prime examples of how Berea College is serving the region and its residents as well as creating a committed group of concerned individuals who will go forth from the college and into the Appalachian region.
“Working within the system is the way that you can effect permanent, valuable, and systemic change for the better.”

James McWhorter, ’07, an ex-Marine and one of the first residents of the SENS demonstration house in Berea’s Ecovillage.

Former Marine James McWhorter finds a new environment for studying as one of the first student residents of the SENS demonstration house in Berea’s Ecovillage.

James McWhorter, ’07, an ex-Marine and one of the first residents of the SENS house, feels fortunate in knowing what direction he is going. After completing school, he plans to go into waste water management in Kentucky. “Because of what I am learning here, I will approach waste water management very differently,” McWhorter says. “On a large municipal scale, waste water treatment such as it is done here in the Ecovillage using the Ecological Machine is a very economical venture.”

With his education, experience, and the discipline learned in the U.S. Marine Corps, McWhorter believes that “working within the system is the way that you can effect permanent, valuable, and systemic change for the better.” McWhorter is already extending his newly-learned skills to the Appalachian region. Leading tours of the Ecovillage and Ecological Machine for interested regional residents has given him a better perspective on some of the challenges and attitudes these people face.

Megan Naseman, ’07, plans on using what she gains here to educate children. She knows firsthand how early influences can shape one’s future. The forestry camp she attended as a teen is where she first became aware of the problems that the region faces. “That was the experience that sparked my interest, opened my eyes, and where I learned the true importance of conservation,” Naseman recalls. She hopes to work at year-round camps for children.

These students collaborated with the others in the class to define a sustainable Appalachian community: a community of people living together with common resources that is aware of how they must benefit the future as much as they do the present. The Resources website will address and outline sustainable community needs as well as the various components of sustainability including, but not limited to, ecological, environmental, spiritual, traditional, and social sustainability. Portions of the website will also address youth issues and activism. The site is being designed this summer, and will be launched through the Appalachian Center at www.appalachiancenter.com in the near future.

Olson notes that already Letcher County, located in southeastern Kentucky, is actively seeking information on regional sustainability initiatives. Many areas within the College, such as CELTS, the Appalachian Center, and now the SENS program are combining to offer more resources to the various communities in the region. “Kentucky has a wealth of natural resources and natural beauty and that’s why so many people stay in Eastern Kentucky,” Olson says. “If I had to sum up the problems that the region faces, I’d say it was globalization. Appalachia has been a victim of it for hundreds of years. People outside the region exploiting it for quick profit on its resources.” One of Olson’s strategies is a movement to integrate the various aspects of regional sustainability in all the College’s educational disciplines. He believes each department, whether it is art, history, chemistry, or political science, has a place for regional sustainability in its core curriculum.

Since its founding, Berea has been committed to serving the mountains. Berea’s dedication to regional sustainability helps prepare today’s students and future generations for their stewardship of the region’s resources. “Through formal classes and field trips to gain more knowledge of the region,” concludes Naseman, “what I am learning here goes to the heart of the bigger picture: one earth, one world.”

The Resource Notebook website is an ever-evolving online meeting place full of Appalachian regional information and sustainability links. Its goal is to act as a clearing house, benefiting everyone from grade school students to professionals working in the field.
Berea College student athletes are typically atypical from most other college student athletes because they choose Berea for its academics first, knowing that athletics must be second. But for two Berea track and cross country athletes, excellence in both areas isn’t out of reach. Izabela Luckiewicz, ’05, from Bialystok, Poland, and Matt Schenk, ’05, from Rensselaer, Indiana, should know. Both are Daktronics-NAIA All-America Scholar Athletes, an honor reserved for only a small percentage of athletes competing at national events who have also earned a 3.5 or higher GPA. Luckiewicz was “discovered” in a New York restaurant by two Bereans, assistant to the president Debra Johnson and Iveta Kyselova, ’00, of Slovakia, an equalities division associate with the international investment banking firm Goldman Sachs & Co. Recognizing Luckiewicz’s eastern European accent, Johnson and Kyselova introduced themselves. Luckiewicz said she was studying English as a second language while preparing to apply at an American college. They told her about Berea’s mission and no-tuition policy. A few months later, Luckiewicz visited Berea College.

“I fell in love with Berea,” she remembers, “and since Iveta and I have a lot in common culturally I looked to her as a role model. I could see what Berea had done for her so I applied to Berea.”

Luckiewicz entered Berea in 2001. “My dream since high school was to study in the United States. Now that I was here, I planned to concentrate on my French and political science majors. I hadn’t run track since 1999 in Poland, but Coach Mike Johnson called me about Berea’s track program. I never considered myself an exceptional runner but if running would help the school that was being so generous to me, then I was willing to give it a try.”

Coach Johnson, ’73, was right about Luckiewicz’s potential. She now holds the school record for the 3,000 meter steeplechase with a time of 11:16, and has placed as high as 9th nationally. This year her goal is to run a wider range of distances and break more school records. “Izabela is one of the best athletes I’ve ever worked with,” says women’s track coach Kelly Ambrose, ’82. “She is a very coachable athlete who really adds to the personality of the team because she has such a good outlook.”

Schenk, an art major, was initially drawn to Berea for its strong academics and well-rounded art department. As an athlete, he was enthused to learn about the track and cross-country records. “Coach Johnson was a key factor in my decision to come to Berea,” Schenk recalls. “He was in touch with me by phone and email once I contacted admissions. He was great about getting information to me and answering my many questions.”

A three-time national qualifier in cross-country, Schenk has placed first for the Berea College team at several meets in the past two years. His best time for the race is 25:48. In indoor track, Schenk placed 11th nationally in 2003. The 4x800 meter relay team of Schenk, Lucian Musgrove, ’03, Shawn Jakubowski, ’06, and Joseph Kimeau, ’05, placed fifth at the 2003 nationals.

For these two athletes the camaraderie generated through sports is very meaningful. Schenk, the only Berea qualifier for the 2003 National Indoor Track Meet, in the 3000 meters, traveled to East Tennessee State University with Coach Johnson. Schenk advanced into the finals, placing 11th nationally with a time of 8:43. Driving through the region where Johnson grew up, they visited some of Johnson’s family. “This is an experience I will always treasure,” notes Schenk. “It’s what many college students yearn for, to be treated as friends and family, not just a face in the classroom. This is one of the best experiences I have had at Berea College.”

Receiving the team’s “Mental Attitude” award for his performance in the 1500m run and 4x800m relay, Schenk explains the “mental and physical duel” his body undergoes while racing: “I begin the race analytically, strategizing as I am running. After awhile, my body is tiring and says ‘slow down’ but something else says ‘no, keep going.’ I become my own cheerleader because I am aware of how much more I can push myself. On the other hand, I can’t do so much analyzing that I distract myself. If I do that, I could slow down without even realizing I am letting up.”

Running relays for nationals, says Schenk, is an unforgettable experience. He and his teammates are the first Berea College relay team to qualify for the nationals and be named All-American. The new school record is 7:41, eighteen seconds faster than the previous record. “It was great traveling with the team and...
Izabela Luckiewicz and Matt Schenk
Are Stars on and off the Field

By Linda C. Reynolds, ’93

interacting with athletes from the various events, such as sprinters and throwers,” says Schenk. “Competing with the nation’s best athletes, bonding with teammates and coaches, and most importantly, having a part of myself mature and expand into something that surpasses the boundaries of the campus, is one of the best experiences a student-athlete can have.”

Women’s competition is equally exhilarating, according to Luckiewicz. Standing on the starting line with 250 women from all over the U.S. is quite an experience. “You are excited and a little bit nervous, but most importantly very happy that you can compete at nationals. You think about your friends who came to support you, hoping you will be mentally strong enough to push yourself beyond borders of your actual physical capabilities. In this short moment, thoughts, like rays, run through your head with the speed of light. It is difficult to explain, but in this minute or two, you begin to realize who you really are... a fighter in every aspect of your life.”

Luckiewicz may be a fighter on the track but she aims for a career in politics using non-violent problem solving. “I want to go back to Poland and help my country solve problems by democratic means,” she explains. Luckiewicz studied two summers in France with two non-governmental organizations called ATD Fourth World Movement, which fights extreme poverty in well-developed countries, and Peacemaking Processes and Non-Violent Resolutions. Classes consisted of students from all over the world interested in studying methods for peaceful conflict resolution.

 Luckiewicz and Schenk are as serious about their labor commitments as they are about academics and athletics. Berea College athletes must juggle working at least 10 hours each week in a College job, carry four to five credits per semester (approximately 16-20 hours), study, and find time to practice. Unlike Berea, other colleges recruit students with perks such as scholarships, special dorms, private tutors, fewer classes, and time off to practice their sport. “The critical piece for success at Berea,” notes Luckiewicz, “is time management.”

“You have to control your schedule to make it work,” Schenk concurs. “At other colleges you could say athletes are paid (with scholarships) to perform, but Berea relies on athletes who are dedicated and love what they do.” Luckiewicz agrees. “We can enjoy athletics and not feel pressured to perform to keep our scholarships.”

Luckiewicz is a 10-hour language lab instructor and a 10-hour political science teaching assistant with a 3.98 GPA who likes working with people and the challenges her work brings. She serves as the Cosmopolitan Club president. “I have been planning for the upcoming International banquet, cultural show and spring trip,” she says. “As the Cosmo president, I want to promote internationalization across the campus.”

Schenk’s freshman labor assignment at the Blacksmith shop was an excellent match for his athletic strength. Continuing in his third year there, he opts to attend a directed study one evening a week, becoming more skilled in blacksmithing and working on personal projects he likes to give as gifts. Some of the wrought iron items he has fashioned include grilling utensils and a knife with a handle made from a deer antler.

“Schenk’s migration to Berea was more pragmatic. He was offered athletic scholarships to other colleges, but none of the schools satisfied his academic criteria. “I decided athletics must take second seat to academics,” he says. “That’s why I’m here instead of some other school.”

Schenk qualified for nationals in cross-country and track each year of his College career. He led Berea’s 4x800 relay team that placed 5th at nationals in 2003.
New Ways to Do Business

What is entrepreneurship? What is “entrepreneurship for the public good”? How do entrepreneurs create value, not only for themselves and the enterprises they lead, but also for the communities they live and work in and society as a whole?

Berea College’s Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) program explores these and other questions during a two-summer program where students learn about entrepreneurship, leadership, and community development in the context of Appalachian communities. The program is co-directed by two faculty members holding endowed chairs which allow for their service to EPG as well as teaching in other academic departments. Debbi D. Brock, former director of the Entrepreneurial Resource Lab and director of the Kauffman Entrepreneurial Internship Program at Miami University in Ohio, was appointed as the William and Kay Moore Chair of Entrepreneurship and Management, and is directing this summer’s program. Jeffrey E. Nelson, former assistant professor and deputy department head for leadership development at the United States Air Force Academy, has been named the new William R. Gruver Chair in Leadership Studies, and began his duties in July.

The EPG program is open to all Berea College students capable of committing to a two-summer experience. It starts with an eight-week Summer Institute, which meets daily and includes several overnight trips. The following summer, each student does a 10-week Entrepreneurial Internship with a nonprofit or for-profit business.

By developing leadership skills and business skills, students will be empowered with the tools necessary to make a difference within communities. “I believe that the hope in Appalachian communities lies in the hands of the individuals who have the entrepreneurial spirit to go out and make an impact on the region,” explains Debbi D. Brock, co-director of the EPG program. “To create opportunity. To create new jobs. To create a future for those who choose to make their home in the mountains. The need to expand and support entrepreneurial activity as a means for revitalizing Appalachian communities led to the creation of the EPG program. According to the Appalachian Regional Commission, the best hope for stabilizing and diversifying Appalachia’s economy lies in the creation and expansion of businesses that provide jobs, build local wealth, and contribute broadly to economic and community development.

“I’m eager to learn what it means to be an entrepreneur and what it takes to start a business,” says Melvin Cowan, ’06, a communications and marketing major from Lexington, Ky. “Lots of people have great ideas but never get them off the ground. I want to develop programs that will flourish.” Through the program, students learn how small businesses and nonprofit agencies are employing socially and environmentally responsible practices to provide jobs and build healthy communities. The goal is for students to:

• Understand what entrepreneurship for the public good means;
• Develop entrepreneurial and leadership skills;
• Engage in meaningful work;
• Create value for small businesses and nonprofits in the region; and
• Explore future career options.

Students who choose not to commit to this two-year program can enroll in other courses offered as part of Berea’s expanding entrepreneurship and leadership curriculum, or participate in campus-wide activities that are open to all students.

The Summer Institute

At the heart of the EPG program is the EPG Summer Institute, an eight-week study of entrepreneurship, leadership, and community development. Through case studies, reading, guest lectures, field trips, and team projects, participants explore these topics in the context of Appalachian communities. The 2004 Summer Institute includes:

• Entrepreneurship and Leadership in Appalachia — The summer began with an integrated study of entrepreneurship and leadership in Appalachia, including a look at the region’s history, culture, and community development.
approaches. Students learn how to develop a strategic plan for a nonprofit or for-profit enterprise, including how to assess needs, identify target markets, calculate costs, improve operations and management, and address human resource issues.

- **Field Trips** — During the summer program, students travel to several communities in the Appalachian region to gain a deeper understanding of entrepreneurship and leadership. From Whitesburg, Kentucky to Athens, Ohio, students visit businesses and nonprofit organizations that are regional models and study examples of economic development that builds upon local resources and talents.

- **Leadership & Creativity** — Students also develop leadership and teamwork skills through team-building activities, working with experiential learning teams, and community projects. In addition, they learn the creative process, from developing a creative brief and brainstorming to concept development.

- **Capstone Project** — Students engage in capstone projects and apply what they learned in the summer program by developing entrepreneurial ways to add value to small businesses and nonprofits in the region.

- **Teaching Others** — In July, EPG students design and implement a two-day Entre-Camp to teach entrepreneurship and business development to students from the Entrepreneurship High School in Cincinnati.

- **Student Reflections & Presentations** — At the end of the summer, students presented their final capstone projects to nonprofit leaders, entrepreneurs, community members, faculty, and fellow students. Throughout the summer experience, students are expected to share personal reflections and participate in group presentations.

The EPG Summer Institute also includes a series of guest lectures by successful entrepreneurs and community leaders. Students enrolled in the Institute receive academic credit for two courses. Since the program requires a high degree of participation, students are unable to have summer jobs. Therefore each student receives a stipend to cover time spent working on projects.

**The Summer Internship**

Students must complete the EPG Summer Institute in order to qualify for placement in an Entrepreneurial Internship. The

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**Berea Fund Surpasses Goal**

Thanks to the generosity of 12,313 friends and alumni, the College has surpassed the annual $3.9 million Berea Fund goal. The more than $4.2 million raised will provide operating funds for student scholarships and services across campus.

This news makes 2003-04 Berea’s best fund-raising year in history, and we are looking forward to an even better year in 2004-05, thanks to those who know that at Berea College, every dollar counts and is invested wisely in the education of deserving and talented youth.

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The summer institute began with team-building sessions to help students learn how to work together to solve problems.

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*The Extending Berea’s Legacy Campaign will fund current programs and projects, and also provide new funds to underwrite important new initiatives that will strategically place Berea to serve students in the 21st century. The $150 million Campaign goal includes gifts to the annual Berea Fund, bequests, and other outright gifts.*
EPG internship program allows Summer Institute students to apply what they learned during the previous summer while serving as interns with businesses or nonprofit enterprises.

“The goal of the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good program is to create service-oriented leaders for Appalachia and beyond,” says Brock. “During the program, students will be challenged to make an impact on a community in the region in both the first summer community partner project and the second summer internship. The second summer, students apply what they learned in the Summer Institute working in for-profit and nonprofit enterprises. The students will not only create value for the host organization, they will gain a deeper understanding and knowledge about the principles of entrepreneurship and leadership.”

The EPG program stays in contact with businesses and nonprofits in the Appalachian region that are potential internship sponsors and assists students in identifying an organization and project which meets both student and program goals. “In this program you’re not just going to school, you’re doing something to learn how to help your community,” says Emily Potter, ‘07, a communications major from Renfro, Ky. “This summer, we’re finding out how to address the community, how to market your organization. Then next summer we’re actually going to be doing the work.”

Each EPG internship is also designed to meet rigorous criteria for academic credit either within the department of the student’s major or in the General Studies program. Students keep an electronic journal to reflect upon the relationship between their course preparation and practical experience. At the conclusion of the internship, students present highlights of their experience to an audience that includes community partner organizations, fellow EPG interns, faculty members, and others.

**EPG Across Campus**

One of the core goals of the EPG program is to encourage students from any major or background to learn and apply entrepreneurship and leadership skills in a wide variety of contexts. Agriculture students can learn entrepreneurial concepts pertinent to farming and forestry industries; nursing students can learn how to set up a clinic; and students studying sustainability and environmental studies can learn what kind of leadership it takes to promote collaboration among economic, environmental, and social service sectors.

The EPG program supports a number of student outreach activities, including:

- **Berea Entrepreneurs Club (BEC):** The student-initiated Berea Entrepreneurs Club is a network of students interested in starting their own business or nonprofit and developing skills necessary to succeed in their entrepreneurial endeavors. The club is affiliated with the Collegiate Entrepreneurs Organization (CEO).

- **Speaker Series:** Local business and community leaders are invited to showcase their own entrepreneurship and leadership experiences and inspire students to consider entrepreneurial career choices as part of our Speaker Series.

- **Business Plan Competitions:** Periodic competitions provide an opportunity for students to pitch their business ideas in front of a panel of judges including bankers, venture capitalists, and potential investors.

- **Workshops and Events:** EPG has joined with other groups on campus to host workshops and events that expand students’ exposure to entrepreneurship and leadership. Topics range from starting your own business to green business practices.

- **Student Consulting Teams:** In conjunction with the Brushy Fork Institute, the EPG program guides students in consulting with area businesses, nonprofits, and student entrepreneurs. Consulting services include feasibility studies, strategic planning, and marketing assistance to increase the potential success of entrepreneurial businesses and nonprofits in the region.

**A Commitment to Contemporary Appalachia**

Promoting the entrepreneurial and leadership skills of individuals within the region is critical to the future of Appalachia. The Entrepreneurship for the Public Good program focuses on helping Berea students and others in the region apply the principles of entrepreneurship that focus on economic development and the broader good rather than simply individual profits. Funds raised for the EPG program in the Extending Berea’s Legacy Campaign have endowed two faculty chairs to lead the program, and will provide scholarships for student participants and other programming funds. Your support allows Berea students to reach out to the surrounding communities and develop skills in creative problem-solving, opportunity assessment, collaborative leadership, and calculated risk-taking. Giving to Berea’s EPG program is a true investment in a brighter future for Appalachia.

From our predecessors to us, to present and future students, Berea’s commitments have been handed down from generation to generation for 149 years. An ideal and an obligation entrusted to future generations, Berea College is dedicated to all peoples of the earth, to excellence in education, to work, to service, and to the Appalachian region.

The Extending Berea’s Legacy campaign seeks to raise $150 million and is scheduled to conclude with the 150th anniversary of the founding of Berea College in 1855. With ideas that matter and values that endure, Berea’s is a story and a movement that calls for action.
With over 17,000 members around the world, the Berea College Alumni Association represents a diverse yet connected extended community. We encourage all our alums to develop strong ties with your friends and to Berea by engaging in our many programs, services, and activities.

**Berea is Coming to You!**

Berea College Alumni Chapters are all over the country—one is probably meeting near you! Chapter meetings for 2004-05 begin in August and run through May, so don’t miss out! For more information, contact the Alumni Association at 1.800.457.9846, or e-mail mae_suramek@berea.edu.

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**Alumni Executive Council Officers**

- President: Dr. Steele Mattingly, ‘50
- President-Elect: Dr. J. Mark Estepp, ‘77
- Past Presidents: Vicki E. Allums, ‘79
- Dr. William A. Laramee
- Mae Suramek, ‘95

**Council Members**

- Mary A. Labus, ‘78
- Jennifer Mills, ‘00
- Dr. Larry D. Shinn, Berea College President
- Celeste Patton Armstrong, ‘90
- Dr. Charlotte F. Beason, ‘70
- Pansy Waycaster Blackburn, ‘58
- Kristin Conley Clark, ‘92
- Juanita Noland Coldiron, ‘47
- Maria FitzGerald, ‘99
- Eunice Hall, ‘78
- Rachel Berry Henkle, ‘64
- Betty Forbes Maskewitz, ‘39
- James Cecil Owens, ‘66
- Rob Stafford, ‘89
- Virginia Hubbard Underwood, ‘73
- Iverson Louis Warinner, ‘66
- Judy Garner White, ‘67

**Alumni Trustees**

- Vance Edward Blade, ‘82
- Dr. Robert N. Compton, ‘60
- Jan Hunley Crase, Cx ‘60
- Tyler Smyth Thompson, ‘83

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**NAVY V-12/V-5 REUNION**

On June 4-6, a week after the dedication of the national WWII memorial in Washington, D.C., a close-knit group of Navy servicemen stationed at Berea College during World War II gathered on campus. Even though each group was only here for a year, the men formed a tight bond that has lasted 60 years.

“We were all fresh out of high school going into the Navy,” recalls Jim Steiner. “That produced a lot of camaraderie.”

From July 1943 to October 1945, 782 men were enrolled at Berea College in the Navy V-12/V-5 Training Program. Alumni of the program include a Berea College trustee from Lexington, several from other parts of Kentucky and many from across the U.S. and Canada. On Saturday, they held a memorial service for fallen comrades in Danforth Chapel, followed by a luncheon hosted by Berea President Larry Shinn and his wife, Nancy. “It’s a very special time for us here at the College,” says Dr. Shinn.

The V-12 alumni coordinate a fund that annually awards a scholarship to a Berea student selected for outstanding leadership and citizenship. The fund also provides for a Navy V-12 award given annually to an international student for outstanding contributions to brotherhood and international understanding on campus.

“There was just something (about Berea) that stayed with you,” says O.V. Wheeler, a Navy aviator who is chairing the next reunion in 2006. “It was the philosophy of Berea.” And that’s why they keep coming back.

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**Alumni Giving Tops $1 Million**

Berea alumni made 1,405 pledges for $68,480 during the Spring Alumni Phonathon held March 8-26. The college relations staff, along with 120 students, called more than eight thousand alumni to raise money for the Berea Fund, which directly supports annual operational costs at Berea. We want to thank our alumni for their support of our students and the work and mission of the college.

Thanks in large part to alumni giving which, for the first time in the history of the College, topped $1 million, we have surpassed the Berea Fund goal of $4 million this year. We continue working to raise our alumni giving percentage, and appreciate everyone who gave this year.

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**Set sail on a cruise ship through the waterways of Russia next summer on Berea College’s 13-day Alumni and Friends Tour, tentatively scheduled for July 22-August 3.**

**For information contact:**

Mae Suramek
859.985.3105 or 800.457.9846
mae_suramek@berea.edu.
A little rain couldn’t dampen the spirits of the alumni, their family members, and friends who came home to Berea for Summer Reunion 2004. They enjoyed a picnic on the quad, special luncheon, and reunions for nine classes.

On Saturday, Truman Fields, ’61, and Joyce Barnes Fields, ’61, accepted the Alumni Loyalty Award in recognition for their exceptional loyalty and faithful service to the Berea College family. Both have been very active in Berea College alumni chapters in Cleveland, where they served as educators, and in Madison County when they returned to Berea after retirement. They regularly support numerous alumni activities and events. When he’s not busy with his position as Berea City Council member or coaching and giving lessons on the College tennis courts, Truman has also lectured in the industrial technology department.

Glennis Walker was named an Honorary Alumnus in recognition of her deep interest in, faithful service, and unusual devotion to the Berea College family. She began working for the college in 1974 in the Student Labor Office, and spent eight years working closely with the student group “People Who Care” in campus ministry. In 1986 she was licensed to the ministry in the Flat Creek Church of the Brethren in Clay County. She and her husband Ernest left Berea to become co-pastors of the Worthington, Minnesota Church of the Brethren in 1988.

Saturday night, the Alumni Banquet featured music from Berea alums Sarah Mitchell Maines, ’02, and Stefanie Wilson, ’02, with a keynote speech from Berea President Larry D. Shinn. Reunion activities concluded Sunday morning with a service at Union Church by Rev. Edward Henderlite, ’54.
Summer Reunion 2004

(L-R) Row 1: Eileen Gunter Auxier, Masiel Deweese Ayers, Orpha Copley Keller, Frieda Meade Wierda, Gerald S. Gilpin. Row 2: James Goforth, Bernice Center Robertson, Hendricks R. Canida, Hugh Hurst, Mary Canida. Row 3: Dr. Melvin Shein, Lillian Shein, Grant Begley, Barbara Hurst.

The Class of 1954
Celebrated Their 50th Reunion This Year

(L-R) Row 1: David Beldon, Mayhew M. Clark, Mildred Catron Dickison, Melba E. Wilson Wash, Betty Forbes Maskewitz. Row 2: James Goforth, Bernice Center Robertson, Hendricks R. Canida, Hugh Hurst, Mary Canida. Row 3: Dr. Melvin Shein, Lillian Shein, Grant Begley, Barbara Hurst.


The Class of 1954
Celebrated Their 50th Reunion This Year

Summer Reunion 2004

Academy/Foundation

1934
Charles O. Bertram taught school for 38 years, and was principal and coach on the high school level. He was also an instructor of vocational agriculture for 31 years, and a teacher-trainer for the University of Kentucky. He served as president of the Wayne County and Anderson County Teachers’ Associations, and was president of the Central Kentucky Voc.-Ag. Retired Teachers Association. He and his wife Jessie live in Lawrenceburg, Ky.

Charles Shepherd Combs,
Cx’34, was featured in the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer for his healthy approach to nutrition and fitness. He is a former University of Kentucky basketball player and longtime educator and coach. He and his wife Dean live in Owensboro, Ky.

1936
Elmer Alexander, Cx’36, celebrated his 92nd birthday last year. He is a retired teacher and continues to lead an active life enjoying his children, his grandchildren, and his farm. He resides in Webbville, Ky.

Evelyn Ball Hobbs now resides with her daughter Annette Hobbs, ’70 in Cambridges, Md.

1937
Alice Churchill Hadley, Cx’37, and her husband Paul moved to a new townhouse in September 2003. They reside in North Mankato, Minn.

Edgar G. Russell, A’37, and his wife Ruth travel in their motor home and enjoy taking bus tours. They also like to catch crab and fish. They live in California, Md., for part of the year and have a winter condominium in Florida.

1939
Mayhew M. Clark is active and in good health. He enjoys gardening and sharing his vegetables with his neighbors. He is currently living in Esley, S.C.

Marion “Sam” White, A’35, Cx’39, and his wife, Elizabeth, live in New Iberia, La.

1940
Elizabeth Rivenburg Holcroft is a retired teacher from Lincoln Elementary School. In 2003, she visited Chihuahua, Mexico. She resides in Miramar, Calif.

1942
Hobert Branscum, Cx’42, is a retired teacher and principal. He and his wife, Virginia Bullen Branscum, ’51, reside in Brodhead, Ky.

Barbara Allen Conley and her husband Robert M. Conley, Cx’42, celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary in December. The couple met during orientation at Berea College in 1938. The Conleys live in Paintsville, Ky.

Laura Eakin Copes and her husband Earle reside in a retirement community in Sarasota, Fla.

1945
Louise Cady Hall resides with her husband, Arthur A. Hall, Jr., in Hermitage, Tenn.

1946
Elizabeth E. Hunt completed the editing of an educational textbook that is due to be published later this year. She lives in Marion, N.C.

1947
Albert Hartley retired from the Arizona State Prison system after 13 years as a Correctional Sergeant, and is now a substitute teacher in Tucson, Ariz.

Reavis P. Lowman has moved to an apartment near his wife Mary Lou Smith Lowman, ’48, who is in a nursing home in Indiana, Pa.

1949
Jesse Hibblitts Beasley is a counselor at Child Watch in Paducah, Ky., where she will be applying EMDR (Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing) with her clients.

Dr. Peggy Johnson Duncan, Cx’49, is a retired family physician. She currently lives in Dunn, N.C.

Audrey Shaw Gordon, Cx’49, was featured in the Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer in 1939 as a substitute teacher in Paducah, Ky. She was a Shadow Program mentor in Franklin County.

1950
Foster F. Burgess, who retired from the Air Force in 1954 and from winemaking in 1988, has also retired from vineyard management, and now enjoys organic gardening. He lives in Freeport, Fla.

1951
Virginia Bullen Branscum and her husband Hobert Branscum, Cx’42, reside in Brodhead, Ky. He is a retired teacher and principal.

Jeane Cochran Gorman, Cx’51, is employed with the Alliance for Learning program and “VITA” (Volunteers in Teaching Adults). She works with students from Iraq, Myanmar, and Mexico. Her husband Bill completed the artwork for Marlin Perkins and his adventures for “Wild Kingdom.” Jeane resides in Mount Prospect, Ill.

1952
Virginia Sneeder Beran and her husband Stanislav Beran, Cx’55, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in April by returning to Massachusetts to visit old friends who joined them in a celebration dinner at Jimmy’s Harborside. The Berans are living in Creer, S.C.

Cora Dixon Campbell has suffered the loss of her husband Gema Campbell. Mr. Campbell passed away in 1997. Mrs. Campbell presently lives in Loyal, Ky.

Nadene Wade May retired as school librarian for the Kentucky School for the Deaf. She currently resides in Danville, Ky.

1953
Ruth Ketchersid Fraass is retired, and works part time in the sales and catering department of the Holiday Inn in Sidney, Neb. She designs and sews quilts to sell for Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, and sews quilts and makes school bags for Lutheran World Relief. She and her husband Glenn live in Lodgepole, Neb.

Jean Hurt Williams is enjoying retirement and the time she spends with her children and grandson. She lives in Lawrenceburg, Ky.

1954
Gwen Lanier Kulesa was one of twelve performers showcased by the Kalamaoo, Michigan Civic Theater at its...
1957
Ann Walker Collins is enjoying her retirement, living in Orinda, Calif.

1959
Donald Forrester is head of the Navy's Corporate Signature Technology Office at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington D.C.

1960
Janice Hunley Crase, Cx’60, was elected in May to Berea College’s Board of Trustees. Crase has professional experience in a variety of businesses and community service work. She is highly involved in real estate as a broker, an appraiser, and developer. She also founded and operated her own independent insurance agency for many years. Earlier in her career she served in Louisville and Jefferson County as an agent with the University of Kentucky Extension Service. She was chief therapeutic dietician with Jefferson County as an agent with the University of Kentucky Extension Service. She was chief therapeutic dietician with Jefferson County as an agent with the University of Kentucky Extension Service.

1961
Kathleen Brown Staton, Cx’61, has retired from the Federal Aviation Administration and resides part-time with her daughter in P. Lauderdale, Fla., and part time with her mother in Broadhead, Ky.

1962
Dr. Hazel Nixon Brown has been given the award of Excellence Professor by the University of North Carolina, Greensboro Board of Trustees for having made significant contributions to her academic field. She is a professor in the School of Nursing at the University and lives in Yadkinville, N.C.

1964
Dr. Nancy Hammonds Meyer retired from her position as assistant director of the Mobile County Department of Human Resources and now works in Penselope House, a shelter for battered women and their children. She also teaches at the University of Alabama School of Social Work. Dr. Meyer lives in Mobile, Ala.

1968
Eddie Kennedy recently directed Courageous Paths, a play performed at the Berea Community School Theatre. The play by Kim Sisson-Hawn, is based on the book of the same name by Jane B. Stephenson, born 1939, wife of former Berea College President John Stephenson and founder of the New Opportunity School for Women (NOSW). Published in 1995, the book features nine New Opportunity School graduates describing their experiences transcending their harsh circumstances through the aid of the NOSW. Eddie and his wife Norma Proctor Kennedy, Cx’80, reside in Berea, Ky., where Norma is assistant director of the New Opportunity School.

1969
Dr. Donna Joyce Dean received the Award for Scientific Achievement in Health Sciences from the Washington Academy of Sciences at its 2004 awards ceremony “in recognition of visionary leadership and pivotal roles in fostering new areas of research endeavor at the National Institutes of Health.” Dean was cited for her professional contributions as researcher, regulatory scientist, administrator and manager of NIH’s peer review process and founding/acting director of the National Institute of Biochemical Imaging and Bioengineering at NIH. Her activities on behalf of workforce issues, women’s health research, and professional societies were also highlighted. Past winners of these prestigious Scientific Achievement Awards include a broad representation of the Washington, D.C. science and science policy community. The Academy was founded in 1898 by a group of scientists that included Alexander Graham Bell. It presented its first awards in 1940. A chemist/biochemist by training, Dean is currently Senior Scholar in Residence at the National Academy of Engineering of The National Academies and Senior Advisor for Engineering in the Office of the Director, NIH.

1970
Dr. Eldon Ball gave the Jean Monnet Economics of European Integration Lecture at University Carlos III de Madrid in Madrid, Spain. Dr. Ball currently resides in Oak Hill, Va.

1976
Robert T. (Ted) Rogers Rogers retired from R. T. Rogers Oil Co., Inc. after 46 years. His son Greg will assume the business operations of the company. Rogers continues to stay busy with his seven grandchildren and seven step-grandchildren. He resides in Hinton, W.Va.

1966
Janice Crabtree Wilson retired from the Beaver Creek City Schools in May 2002. She is enjoying traveling and babysitting her granddaughter. Wilson is also continuing her writing, which she had postponed, and has projects in the works. She lives in Xenia, Ohio.

1969
Dr. V. Milton Boyce was inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame, Class of 2004, on March 22. Dr. Boyce and his wife, Margaret Boyce, reside in Stephens City, Va.

1961
Betty Pressley Michael has recently retired after 22 years as an elected county official during which she held the positions of County Treasurer, County Auditor, and County Court Clerk. She currently serves part-time as a County Councilman. She lives in Lafayette, Ind.

1962
Dr. Larry Keeter is retiring from Appalachian State University in Boone, N.C., where he served as professor of sociology for 33 years. He was the first Appalachian State professor to be elected mayor of Boone, and was instrumental in implementing plans to manage growth in the area.

1966
Sheena Jones Forester and Lois Davidson Gillespie, Cx’61 are retired and live in Atlanta, Ga.

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Eddie Kennedy recently directed Courageous Paths, a play performed at the Berea Community School Theatre. The play by Kim Sisson-Hawn, is based on the book of the same name by Jane B. Stephenson, born 1939, wife of former Berea College President John Stephenson and founder of the New Opportunity School for Women (NOSW). Published in 1995, the book features nine New Opportunity School graduates describing their experiences transcending their harsh circumstances through the aid of the NOSW. Eddie and his wife Norma Proctor Kennedy, Cx’80, reside in Berea, Ky., where Norma is assistant director of the New Opportunity School.

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1976
Fred Marcengill retired from the United States Department of Agriculture. He resides in Oak Hill, Va.
Agriculture after 35 years of service. He lives in Westminster, S.C.

1971

Pamela Corley Slowkowski is a local artist and founder of The Gallery, known previously as The Upstairs Gallery, in Berea, Ky. The Gallery closed in February and Slowkowski, along with several other local artists, formed their various individual galleries into a co-op.

1973

Delphina Hopkins Gillispie is a professor at Valparaiso University in the department of biology and education. She lives in Valparaiso, Ind.

Lois Edwards Judd works as a registered sales assistant for Hilliard Lyons in Lexington, Ky. She and her husband Danny reside on a small farm in Georgetown, Ky.

1974

Ava Coffman Hinton has been a teacher for 30 years and spent the last 16 years teaching first grade in Remington, Ky. She currently volunteers with Habitat for Humanity and the United Methodist Church. Steele Hinton Iii, '75, builds custom furniture and restores antiques in Lexington, Ky.

1977

Dr. Alison Culkin Calkins is the medical director at St. Joseph’s Hospital in Tampa, Fla. She is also the leader of the NICI Clinical Trials Support Unit.

1978

Mike Caudill is Superintendent of Madison County Public Schools. He serves on numerous community boards, and is an executive committee member of the Kentucky Education Development Cooperation Board. He and his wife Lisa Pennington Caudill, '78, reside in Berea, Ky.

Connie Nodine Manchester received her master’s degree in education from Penn State University. She is employed as a manager of the Human Subjects Protection Office at Penn State College of Medicine, and lives in Hershey, Pa.

Pamela Cummins Martin teaches 8th grade American history in Rockcastle County, Ky. She and her husband own and operate Dowell-Martin Funeral Home and Sparks Flowers and More.

Ruth Anita Nisssley completed her nursing degree and currently works as a cardiac nurse at Blake Medical Hospital. She and her husband, John Townsend, reside in Sarasota, Fla.

1979

25th HOMECOMING

Chairperson November 19-21, 2004
Sandi Sparks Cramer: 1251 Lucerne Lane, Lawrenceburg IN 47025 or bike792@one.net

1980

Sara Dunne is currently working as the director of nutrition services at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Nora Swango Stanger is a motivational speaker for the organization “Higher Ground” which works to motivate Appalachian youth to finish high school, attend college, and expand their personal visions. She lives in Loveland, Ohio.

1983

Paul Sirimongkhon had his latest art work featured on the cover of the official 2004 Kentucky Derby souvenir magazine. He and Paul D. Atkinson, ’76, recently met during an art auction at the Bloodhorse Magazine, for which they had both donated a piece of art for the March of Dimes fund drive. Atkinson was the art director with the College Press from 1980-1988 and Sirimongkhon came to work for him during his years at Berea College. Sirimongkhon drew many cartoons, including the Berea “Mountie” that is used to this day as the mascot on the College’s athletic uniforms. He is now working as a graphic designer with Centre College’s communications office. He and his wife, Barbie Leggin Sirimongkhon, live in Danville.

1984 20th HOMECOMING

Chairpersons November 19-21, 2004
Mike and Cynthia Barker Adkins, 5275 Stokes Ferry Rd., Salisbury, NC 28146 or caddock@salisbury.net

1986

Alan Ramsey is employed as an interlibrary loan assistant at the Paul N. Elbin Library at West Liberty State College in West Liberty, WV.

1987

Rev. Curtis E. Wheeler is beginning his third year of ministry at Winchester Avenue Christian Church in Martinsburg, WV.

1988

Timothy D. Platt is an information technology manager for Toyota’s North American manufacturing operations. He manages the Business Planning Office for the Information Systems division. He enjoys computer work, Christian financial concepts, Biblical science, and business. His wife, Sara Shostak Platt, ’92, home schools their three children, Maria, Katrina, and Noah. The family lives in Florence, Ky.

Sekou K. Saho Jr. is employed as a National Professional Officer in the UNHCR Office of Chief of Mission in Gambia. Anthony (Tony) Wright has been certified as a Housing Development Finance Professional by the New York based National Development Council. He currently works as a loan officer with the Kentucky Housing Corporation in Frankfort, Ky.

1989 15th HOMECOMING

Chairperson November 19-21, 2004
Dreama Gentry, Berea College CPO 2185, Berea, KY 40424 or dreama_gentry@berea.edu

Birth: A son, Christopher Carlos Davis, born on March 22 to Dreama Gentry and Hasan Davis, ’92. Christopher joins his five-year-old brother Malcolm Hasan Davis. The family lives in Berea, Ky. Ms. Gentry is director of Special Programs at Berea College, and has recently been named the College’s compliance officer. Mr. Davis is touring the country performing two theatrical one-man shows and serving as a motivational speaker. He is vice chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice.

1990

Michele Brunette is employed as a nurse for a dual-military couple, a position that allowed her to live on three different continents. She currently lives in Pinehurst, NC.

Scott Whitfield Wallace is employed as a mental health services professional with Mountain Laurel Community Health Services and resides in Hendersonville, NC.

1991

Katherine Claire Silver Kelly is a first year law student at the University of Akron. She lives in Copley, Ohio.

1993

Married: Geoff Bartlett and Hatha Gable, ’96, in Danforth Chapel on October 18. Erika Hensley, ’95 and Eric Pridemore, ’93 served as witnesses during the ceremony. The couple resides in Shoperd, Mich. where Geoff is the director of annual giving for Central Michigan University and Hatha is a landscape designer.

Alfred Bennett and his wife Donna Jean Bennett, ’94, live in Pataskala, Ohio with their two daughters Danielle, 8 and Lauren, 3.

Rhonda Anglin Carl is a nuclear medicine technologist at Berea Hospital. She and her husband Mark reside in Berea with their son Mark “Trevor” Carl, 5.

Monica Rae Kelly is a court designated worker with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. She and her husband Robert reside in Cox’s Creek, Ky. with their daughter, Destiny.

Chandrel L. Wright is director of sales and services for events at the Harbert Center, a convention facility in Birmingham, Ala. She resides in Birmingham with her son, Aston, 5.

1994 10th HOMECOMING

Chairperson November 19-21, 2004
Timothy B. Jones, 6232 Dukes Ct., Independence, KY 41051-8369 or timothy.b.jones@fmr.com

Married: John C. Bowers and Georgia Osborne Bowers in Danforth Chapel March 27. They reside in Berea, Ky.

Andrea R. Coleman is completing her master’s degree in political science at the University of Kentucky with emphasis on constitutional interpretation/judicial studies. She is currently employed as a juvenile justice specialist in the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice. She resides in Lexington, Ky.


Cheryl Gibson is working as a children’s service coordinator for KY River Community Care, Inc. She has one daughter, Hannah Kathryn Adams, 3, and lives in Isom, Ky.


Damena Metta is a licensed nursing facility administrator. He and his wife, Guenet, a registered nurse, live in Plano, Texas.

Jacqueline H. Janes resides in South Bend, Ind. Jarrod E. Henson, Cx'94, lives in McDonald, Tenn. He is currently a director for a youth program. He and his wife Jennifer have three children: Jazmyne, 2, Jacob, 5, and Justin, 10.

Maria Hubing is a Global Operations Manager for Aquilent Technologies. She lives in Castle Rock, Colo. Janel L. Pittman is currently working on her MBA in Health Care Management at the University of Phoenix. Janel resides in Old Hickory, Tenn.

Willard Keith Rogers is employed as an officer with the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection. He and his wife live in Florence, Ky.

Emily Sautter graduated May 8 with her master’s degree in teaching from the University of Louisville. She plans to teach art in grades K-12. She lives in Louisville, Ky.

Isaac Leroy Vanderpool II spent six months in Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom where he earned a bronze star. He and his wife, Amy Hoggard Vanderpool, have two children: Molly, 3, and Gabriel, 2. They live in Andersonville, Tenn.

Rebecca Thompson Webb married Richard Webb in Oct. 2002 and they have one daughter, Chloe Elizabeth, born July 10, 2003. Rebecca is working at Headstart in Knoxville, Tenn.

1995


Robert “Rob” Clanin is a staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force, and has been stationed in North Carolina, Arizona, and Korea. He is an F-16 fighter jet crew chief, and is presently a member of the Thunderbirds—the U.S.A.F. Aerial Demonstration team. He lives in Las Vegas, Nev.


Stephanie Danielle Hancock Graham is married to Nathan Graham and they have two sons: James, 7, and Lukas, 2. The Grahams live in Marion, Ky.


Charlotte Johnson is working at Cumberland River Hospital in Celina, Tenn. as a night RN supervisor.


Kesli Murphy was married to Molly Murphy and they have three children: Cameron, 9, Chelsea, 2, and Reece, 1. They live in Edgewood, Ky.

Birth: a daughter, Katie, to Julie Renee Pragar Simon, M.D., and Matthew Joseph Simon, D.O., M.S. ’97, on Jan. 6, 2003. Julie graduated in May 2003 from Pikeville College School of Osteopathic Medicine and is currently doing his residency at Jewish Hospital. Julie is caring for her children, Nathan and Katie. They live in West Chester, Ohio.


Shonda E. Miller Wahlert and Baze Hardin Wahlert, Cx’98, currently reside in Lexington, Ky. They have two daughters, Ashlyn, 3, and Kira, 1.

Rebecca Watson earned her master’s degree in education and a second master’s in library science from the University of Kentucky. She has been the youth services librarian at Woodford County Library for five years. She has four children, one in middle school and three in elementary school, and lives in Versailles, Ky.

Jennifer L. Wibbels is completing her second master’s degree, and teaches at Nee Middle School in Louisville, Ky.

1996

Amy Black married Jeff Marsh in 2002. She is a member of the Board of the Lois Dale McCoy Foundation. She also completed her M.M. in Choral Conducting at the University of Kentucky in 1999. She is currently an active musician in Lexington, Ky.

Christopher and Karen Sue Mannie Ermman, Cx’96, have one son, Auston Nelson, born May 22, 2001. They currently live in Sommerville, Ind.

Steve Jones and Erica Anderson Jones, Cx’94, have two children: Riley Annam, 3, and Owen Steven, 1. Erica is working for Allstate and Steve is a stay at home dad. They live in Alpharetta, Ga.

Dr. Chad David Lee completed his doctorate in crop and soil sciences from Michigan State University in spring of 2002 and is now the Extension Grain Crops Specialist at the University of Kentucky. His wife Verona Gale Isaacs Lee, ’95, is a Certified Commercial Interior Designer. They live in Versailles, Ky.

Christel Pressley Little is working as a voter registration/elections Fayette County clerk. She lives in Lexington, Ky.

Paul Christopher and Erin Therese Mullaney Mobley have three children: Bethany Anne, 3, Michaela Gabrielle, 2, and Karis Rebekah, 1. Erin is taking classes to complete her master’s degree in education. They reside in Sommerville, Tenn.

Kesli Murphy is married to Molly Murphy and they have three children: Cameron, 9, Chelsea, 2, and Reece, 1. They live in Edgewood, Ky.


Shonda E. Miller Wahlert and Baze Hardin Wahlert, Cx’98, currently reside in Lexington, Ky. They have two daughters, Ashlyn, 3, and Kira, 1.

Rebecca Watson earned her master’s degree in education and a second master’s in library science from the University of Kentucky. She has been the youth services librarian at Woodford County Library for five years. She has four children, one in middle school and three in elementary school, and lives in Versailles, Ky.

Jennifer L. Wibbels is completing her second master’s degree, and teaches at Nee Middle School in Louisville, Ky.

1997

Davina Suzann Ball received her master’s in medicine as a physician assistant and has worked in dermatology for two and a half years. She lives in Knoxville, Tenn.

Jamie Cantrill is a physical education/health teacher at Lincoln Co. Middle School. He also completed his master’s degree in Educational Leadership. His wife, Deena Lynn Cantrill, ’96, is a registered nurse at the University of Kentucky Children’s Hospital. They have two children: Jack Brody, 6, and Kelsey Ellen, 3. They reside in Lancaster, Ky.

Birth: a daughter, Evangelina Lucia, to Roderick and Rebecca Sirkell Carbonell, ’96, on March 11. The family lives in Greenwood, Colo.

Justin Cowles returned from the Peace Corps where he volunteered in the Kingdom of Tonga from 1998 through 2000. He is now living in Berkeley Springs, W.Va.

Birth: a daughter, Lane Olyvia, to Kimberly Lane Cox and Brian Cox on May 25, 2002. Mrs. Cox is employed by the University of Kentucky as a County Extension Agent for Family and Consumer Services and 4-H Youth Development. She lives in Wellington, Ky.

Maigorza Manning completed her master’s in education in 1999 at Xaver University. She is currently a full-time German teacher in the Oak Hills School District in Cincinnati, Ohio. She lives in Lawrenceburg, Ind.

Bobbi Luttrell Mullins and husband Dr. John M. Mullins have two daughters: Zoe, 5, and Emma, 3. They currently reside in Lexington, Ky.

Stephanie Rettew-Novak is currently working as an RN at Summit Medical Center in Madison, Tenn.

Delena Golden Powell married Robert Powell and they have a two-year-old daughter named Kylie Rae. Mrs. Powell is a billing manager for a physical therapy clinic. She lives in Berea, Ky.

Matthew S. Schmidt is presently an attorney with the law firm of Nicksam, Atter and Wiesler, LLP, in Chillicothe, Ohio.

Mark Williamson has served as a territory representative for Wyeth Pharmaceutical since October 2003. He lives in Gallipolis, Ohio.

1998

Chris Berger works as a kitchen designer and cabinetry salesmen. He resides in Columbia City, Ind.


Whitney Blackburn-Lynch is working as an environmental engineer for Hall and Associates Inc. She and her husband, James Blackburn-Lynch, a math professor at Berea, have a son Quinn Carter, 1. They live in Lexington, Ky.

Nicole Masica Montgomery is pursuing a master’s in library science at the University of Kentucky. She and her husband, Matthew B. Montgomery, ’94, live in Lexington, Ky.

Jennifer Ashley Carpenter Oakes received her master’s of science in social work (MSSW) in 2000. She married Jason Oakes on June 29, 2002. The couple lives in Louisville, Ky.


Married: Sarah Stricklen to Eric Schilens, a University of Florida graduate from Palm Harbor, Fla., on July 10 in Montgomery, Ala. Her brother, First Lieutenant William Simon Stricklen, returned from serving in Iraq with the Charlie Company’s engineering division of the third infantry of the U.S. Army. She lives in New Port Richey, Fla.

Douglas Allen is working as a financial auditor for the State Auditor Office. He and his wife, Temulca, have one son, Isaiah. They live in Lexington, Ky.

Mollie Aleshire graduated from the University of Kentucky with her master’s degree in nursing in 2003. She is currently practicing as a family nurse practitioner in Winchester, Ky., and lives in Lexington, Ky.

Tommy L. Clemmons is a member of the MERJ (Madison, Estill, Rockcastle, and Jackson counties) Action Team Board. The Action Team is implementing the MERJ Market sustainable community center at Pilot Knob Farm, which started its local farmers’ market in May. She has worked as a practicing attorney at the president of Berea College since 2001. She lives in Big Hill, Ky.

Tammy Lynn Cobb was recently promoted to agriculture inspector supervisor for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. She lives in Frakes, Ky.

Tony DeSpain earned his master’s degree in education and Rank One certification from Indiana Wesleyan University. He resides in Louisville, Ky.

Christi Ford traveled to Peru and received her MSHP in environmental sciences and engineering in 2001. She also got married in October 2003. She lives in Chapel Hill, N.C.

Amanda McMullin, Cx’99, is currently attending the University of Kentucky for her major in political science/pre-law. She lives in Lexington, Ky.

David Perry is working for the Social Security Administration. He was recently selected for a regional management program. He was married in June, and lives in Richmond, Ky.


Michelle E. Shupe Steenberger is working on her master’s in library science. She lives in Corbin, Ky.

Sara Veinberg is working on her master’s of education in curriculum and instruction from Ferris State University. Sara lives in Lowell, Mich.

Tiffany McGough Webb, Cx’99, earned her associate degree in early childhood education. She married Scott Webb on May 23, 1998, and has two children, Andrew Tyler, 4, and Morgan Renee, 2. She lives in Morganton, N.C., where she is currently a stay-at-home mother.

Jeremy Wood is an assistant manager at 84 Lumber in Nicholasville, Ky.

Kenya Arrington Woods was named Mrs. Lexington and competed in the Mrs. Kentucky America pageant on June 19 and 20 in Louisville. She is assistant director of admissions for Morehead State University.

2000

Nelson Douglas Alexander has worked for the past four years at the Carlisle Peace Center. He lives in Louisville, Ky.

Christopher Dale Byers lives in Newport, Ky. and is in law school at Chase College of Law.

Benjamin M. Herzog received his master’s degree from Eastern Kentucky University and now teaches at Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School in Lexington. His wife, Edna Hines Herzog, works in human resources at the University of Kentucky. They live in Lancaster, Ky.

Antonio Melton is pursuing his master’s degree in counseling and teaching at Leestown Middle School. His wife, Cindy Kai-Yi Melton, ‘01, is a registered nurse at UK Hospital. They live in Lexington, Ky.

Jodi Hope Scholl, Cx’98, is currently attending graduate school at Antioch New England Graduate School in Portland, Ore. She will spend time in Italy, Argentina, and France as part of her English teacher certification program. She will complete her degree in dance/movement therapy after completing a one-year internship in Portland, Ore.

2002

Alicia Adams is currently manager of a Kroger Photo Lab. She recently purchased a new house and resides in Batavia, Ohio.

Rachel Enin Ballard is a registered nurse working in public health for Madison County. Her husband Jeremy Ballard, ‘06, is an engineer for Toyota and is completing his master’s degree in Eastern Kentucky University. They reside in Berea, Ky.

Married: Tanya Carney Belda to Luc Belda on June 15, 2002. Tanya finished her master’s degree in TESOL and applied linguistics at Indiana University in December 2003. She is currently working in Austin, Texas. She and Luc reside in Berea, Ky.

Doug Clark and his wife Becky were married July 19, 2003. He is a private investigator. The couple resides in Lexington, Ky.

Married: Ginger G. Hicks Deel to Travis Deel. She plans to start graduate school at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, pursuing her master’s degree in second language studies. The couple resides in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Rebekah Estep Devries was married May 10, 2003. She is employed as a Spanish teacher at her former high school. She and her husband live in Newark, Ohio.


Married: Kyleen Pasick Krupp to Matt Krupp on Nov. 8, 2003. She received her master’s degree in teaching from Eastern Kentucky University. The Krupps live in Richmond, Ky.

Heather L. Womack-Singer received her master’s degree in applied linguistics at Indiana University in December 2003. She began a year abroad in July, having won the prestigious Watson Fellowship, which provides funds enabling recipients to travel outside the United States and explore a topic of their choosing. She will spend time in Turkey, Tunisia, South Africa, Japan, and Italy studying traditional building traditions around the world and their application to modern ecological design and construction.

Kristina Juedy and Thaminda Ramanayake moved to Rochester, N.Y. in May. He is pursuing graduate work in physics at the University of Rochester and she is in graduate school for music at SUNY-Fredonia. Elisabeth McBride spent the month of June touring Ireland, Greece, and Egypt. She resides in Orlando, Fla., and works as a vacation planner for Walt Disney World.

Birth: a daughter, Abby Singer, to Crystal Womack-Singer, Cx’04, on Apr. 4, 2003. They reside in Bowling Green, Ky.

Faculty/Staff

John Couter, professor of music, had his carillon composition “In Memoriam—September 11, 2001” featured in a Memorial Day concert by carillonneur Richard D. Gegner at the Mary M. Emery Memorial Carillon in Mariemont, Ohio on May 31.

Karen Stewart is currently training to be a ballroom dance instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio. Karen is also an authorized representative of Taibo Nutritional Supplements. She lives in Lexington, Ky.

Stefanie L. Wilson is currently working at Berea College as an admissions counselor; serving eastern Kentucky and central Tennessee. She lives in Richmond, Ky.

Birth: A son, Aaron Michael Hess, on October 20, 2003 to Kimberly Alsp and Christopher D. Hess. They are living in Lebanon, Va.

Married: Tina Miles Craig to Brandon Craig on Apr. 17. She is working at the Marion County Circuit Clerk Office. They live in Lebanon, Ky.

Margaret Hudson is an RN for St. Luke’s Hospital East in Fort Thomas, Ky. on the telemetry unit.

Stella Lawson was awarded a Compton Mentor Fellowship to spend a year in San Francisco working with young community leaders to create a healthy sustainable food store and a community kitchen. She is one of only four college graduates to receive the 2003 Mentor Fellowship, which provides $35,000 to support her project titled Creating Sustainable Food Security for Environmental Justice: Youth Empowerment in Bayview Hunters Point. Lawson began working in June with mentor Dana Lanza, M.D., founder and executive director of the nonprofit organization Literacy for Environmental Justice.

Eduardo McLean is in the process of applying for graduate school at the University of Albany. N.Y. this fall. McLean lives in Tacoma, Wash.

Justin Keith Nichols is an assistant program director at the YMCA Trout Lodge and Camp Lake and resides in Posey, Mo.
Passages

The “Passages” section of the Berea College Magazine honors Bereans who have passed away. If you know of a Berean who has died, please let the Alumni Association know by calling 1.800.457.9846, or e-mailing mae_suramek@berea.edu. Please include the person’s class year or connection to Berea, and the date of place of death.

1910s

'Ola' Bowman Brannon, Cx’18, of Waynesville, N.C., died Feb. 21. She taught weaving in the Crafts program at Berea College and was a gifted weaver, poet, and artist.

1930s

Jean Cocks Pauck, '33, of Frankfort, Ky., died April 17. She was the widow of Dr. Charles E. Pauck, former Berea College professor of German. She is survived by daughters Helen L. Pauck Hill, Cx’57 and Margaret Pauck Stapleton, '57, and son-in-law John M. Stapleton, '57. She was preceded in death by daughter Mary Pauck Schulte, Cx’53.

Ruby Hammon Clark, '34, of Patriot, Ohio, died Aug. 27, 1999. She was a retired teacher with the Carter County School District.

Lester McClung, Cx’34, of Nitro, W.Va., died Aug. 12, 2001. He was eighty-eight.


Lucille Webb Helton, Cx’35, of Rock Hill, S.C., died Nov. 7, 2002 at the age of eighty-nine. Her husband, Jerome C. Helton, '33, is also deceased.

Julia Zekany McGraw, '35, of Pineville, W.Va., died Feb. 11. She was a teacher and educator for over forty years and was recognized for her service in education and government to West Virginia during her 60th class reunion at Berea College.

Geneva Johnson Smith, Cx’35, of Pikerville, Ky., died June 16, 1996. She was a retired bookkeeper for the Bank of Hindman.


Dr. Harvey K. Meyer, '36, of Melrose, Fla., died Feb. 24. He was a retired educator and administrator from the University of Florida system. He and his wife, Jessie Hamm Meyer, '33, who preceded him in death, were active in Berea’s Alumni Chapter program. They attended a number of Berea’s Alumni Colleges and taught at one of these sessions. Dr. Meyer served as an Alumni Council member and president of the Alumni Council.

The Meyers received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 1986.

Thomas Holladay Conover, Cx’36, of Breveton, Ala., died April 16. He was born and raised in Columbus, Ky., but after marriage moved to Breveton, where he managed a furniture store until his retirement.

Hubert Cornell, Cx’36, of Liberty, Ky., died Jan. 26. He was born in Perry County, Ky., and was a merchant and farmer. He is survived by his wife, Cathryn Vaden Cornell, and his son, Mike.

Read Price Clark, Cx’37, of Eastley, S.C., died Jan. 7, 2002. He was eighty-nine.

H. Lee Durham, '38, of Mt. Vernon, Ky., died on Jan. 24. He devoted his career to agriculture, serving as a vocational teacher in Lincoln County and as a county agriculture extension agent in Rockcastle County. He was a former member of the Berea Kiwanis Club and the Mt. Vernon Lions Club. He also served as chaplain for the Rockcastle Chapter of Gideons International. He is survived by his wife, Laura.

Reed C. Owens, '38, of Fort Pierce, Fla., died Jan. 13, 2003. He was the retired superintendent of schools of St. Lucie County.

Charles Deward Colvard, '39, of Raleigh, N.C., died on March 8. He had a long and successful career in agriculture and served on the North Carolina Milk Commission, as manager of the N.C. Milk Products Federation, and as executive vice president of the Cooperative Council of North Carolina, where he educated regulators and policy makers about the economic and educational needs of farmers. He served for six years on Governor Hunt’s advisory board on Agriculture, Forestry, and Seafoods. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, and earned his M.S. from North Carolina State University. He was also active in community affairs, serving as president of the Kiwanis and the Optimist Club, on the board of directors of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants Association, as deacon in the First Presbyterian Church, and as chairman of a 100-man committee to build the 200-bed Catawba Memorial Hospital. Honorary awards received during his life include the N.C State Grange Man of the Year in 1977, Phi Kappa Phi scholastic fraternity, Gamma Sigma Delta honorary agricultural fraternity, and FFA of N.C. State Farmer’s Degree in 1978. Upon Colvard’s retirement, Governor Hunt referred to him as “one of the greatest advocates” for rural people in North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Juanita Yoder Colvard, two sons, Carl and John Colvard, three daughters, Cathy Colvard, Anne Colvard Nicholson, and Elisabeth Colvard, his brother and sister-in-law Dr. Dean W. Colvard, '35 and Martha Lamplink Colvard, '34, and four grandchildren.

Neil M. Gibbs, '39, of Anchorage, Ky., died on Nov. 13. He was a retired loan officer with Federal Intermediate Credit Bank and a volunteer for Baptist Hospital East, the Kentucky Center for the Arts, and the Actors Theatre of Kentucky. He is survived by his wife, Juanita Yoder Colvard, two sons, Carl and John Colvard, three daughters, Cathy Colvard, Anne Colvard Nicholson, and Elisabeth Colvard, his brother and sister-in-law Dr. Dean W. Colvard, '35 and Martha Lamplink Colvard, '34, and four grandchildren.

1940s

Flora Cox Allen, '40, of Berea, Ky., died March 3. She was a co-owner of Allen’s Flowers in Berea. She taught at Harlan County and Berea Community schools and was active in the Berea Lioness Club, Berea Retired Teachers Association, Progress Club, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

Herman McDonal, '40, of Lexington, Ky., died Aug. 13, 2003. He received his master’s degree from the University of Tennessee, and was a retired soil scientist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He is survived by his wife, Mary Ellis McDonald, '41.

Mayme “Mimi” Hensley Shutt, '40, of Paso Robles, Calif., died March 29. She was a nurse and teacher, working in several hospitals during World War II and also in the Los Angeles city schools. She was commissioned a Kentucky Colonel in 1963 for her dedicated work with young people. She spoke French as a second language, and was an accomplished pianist, artist, and seamstress. She was an active community volunteer, working with the Westchester Lariats, an educationally oriented youth folk dance troop that toured all 50 states. She was a loyal member and past president of PEO Sorority and the United Methodist Women. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Dr. Noel MacHenry Shutt, '41, daughter Linda Hessel, son Dr. Noel M. Shutt, brother Tom Hensley, six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.


Luther J. Bright, '42, of Marinton, W.Va., is deceased.

Edward G. Stodder, Cx’42, of New York, N.Y., died Dec. 23. He is survived by his wife, Carole.

Linda Jane Stephens, Cx’43, of Lexington, Ky., died Feb. 10. She was the librarian and taught Latin at Prestonsburg High School for 33 years.


Dr. William E Cyrus, C'44, of Vandalia, Ill., died Dec. 16, 2003. “Doc” was a chiropractor for many years. He had cared for his wife, Mildred Taylor Cyrus, C'41, during her final illness until her death.

John R. Harris, Navy V12 '44, of Paducah, Ky., died Nov. 18, 2002.

William K. "Bill" Heid, C'44, of Cleveland, Ohio, died Nov. 14, 2001. He was a charter member of the B.R.N.S. Train Society.

Ellen Reynolds Morrow, Cx’44, of Houston, Texas, died April 21. She was the widow of Ernest Harlan Morrow, '50. In addition to her own schooling, Ellen was part of the campus community while Ernest was a student. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Lillian "Sandy" Reynolds Robbins, Cx’52 and Sherman Robbins, '51. She was a native of Clay County, Ky.

Travis Dean Rawlings, Cx’44, of Midway, Ky., died Aug. 7, 2003. He was a retired professor from Transylvania University in Lexington, and an antique dealer. He was a Navy veteran of World War II.

Kathleen Hittman, Cx’45, of Huber Heights, Ohio, died Jan. 8.

Linus R. Litsay, Navy V12’45, of Tna, N.M., died Feb. 18. Before retiring near the Colorado River, he worked in oil exploration and traveled all over the world.

James Senger, Navy V12’45, of St. Louis, Mo., died Feb. 4. He was a retired vice president of environmental policy at Monsanto. Following his retirement, he taught graduate level environmental management courses at Washington University School of Engineering and Applied Science. He is survived by his wife, Marian.

Donald E. Eklund, Navy V12’46, of Portland, Ore., died Dec. 22, 2003. He was the advertising manager.
for Pendleton Woolen Mills and later for Olympia Beer. He is survived by his wife, Ardis, one son, David, two daughters, Janet Elkind Morrison and Barbara Elkind, his former wife, Blake, and three grandchildren.

John A. Biggerstaff, Cx’48, of Oak Ridge, Tenn., died Jan. 11. He was a Berea native, a University of Kentucky graduate with a Ph.D. in nuclear physics, and a 1998 retiree from Oak Ridge Nuclear Laboratory. He was a U.S. Army Veteran of World War II. He is survived by one brother, Lewis, one sister, six nieces and nephews, one great-niece, and one great-nephew.

Georgia Ruth Roberts, ’48, of Birmingham, Ala., died April 12. She was a native of Leicester, N.C. but spent most of her adult life in Birmingham. She was retired from American Cast Iron Pipe Co., where she recently served on the Centennial Celebration Planning Committee. She was a member of Highlands United Methodist Church, where she served in the Community Ministry for the homeless, on the Altar Guild, and with the United Methodist Women. She worked with the Friends of Vestavia Hills Library and was a member of the Birmingham Music Club Guild. Surviving are her sisters, Mildred Cole and her husband, Morris, and Catherine Flemmons and her husband, T.H., her special friend and caregiver, Bobbie Caldwell, and several nieces and nephews.


Robert C. Parkins Fisher, Cx’49, of Liberty, W.Va., died March 11. She was a member of Emma Cole and her family, Morris, and Catherine Flemmons and her husband, T.H., her special friend and caregiver, Bobbie Caldwell, and several nieces and nephews.

Glenn L. Shupe, Cx’49, of Berea, Ky., died March 12. A native of Galax, Va., he was a World War II U.S. Navy veteran, former Berea College woodwork foreman, and retiree from Dresser Industries. He was an active member of Silver Creek Baptist Church, where he served as Sunday School teacher, Sunday School director, and youth director. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Janet Shupe Hart and Paul Hert, ’71, his brother and sister-in-law, Earl Shupe, Cx’45 and Bonnie Holman Shupe, ’42, his sister and brother-in-law, Mary Anna Shupe Cassady, ’45, and Melvin Cassady, ’45, and one grandson.

Benjamin Franklin Whitmire, Cx’49, of Trenton, N.J., died Dec. 5, 2003. He was a native of Greenville, S.C. He is survived by his wife, Jean Bright Whitmire, ’47.

1950s

Carolyn Warford Midkiff, Cx’50, of Cincinnati, Ohio, died July 21, 2003. She was a retired sales representative for Sisco, Inc.

Russell L. Patton, ’50, of Langlely, Ky., died Feb. 12, 2001. He was retired from Kentucky Hydrocarbon and was a World War II veteran.


Alfred G. Fuller, ’52, of Cleveland, Ohio, died Jan. 4, 2001.

Dr. Edward W. Bringman, ’54, of Mount Dora, Fla., died Feb. 29. He was a graduate of the Kansas City College of Osteopathy and Surgery and served patients at Parkview Osteopathic Hospital and in family practice in Toledo, Ohio for 30 years before moving to Florida. He retired after serving as a physician in hospitals in Orlando and Umatilla, Fla. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed music, boating, photography, travel, painting, and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Jessie Ruth Meeks Bringman, ’54, two sons, Garry and Eric, a daughter, Mary Bringman Funka, a brother, Paul J. Bringman, ’51, a sister, Jeannette Bringman Rogers, and two granddaughters.

Betty Nestor Weaver, Cx’54, of Rock Hill, N.C., died Nov. 29, 2003. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Jack Weaver, ’54.

Dr. Constantine Cappas, ’56, of Mobile, Ala., died March 20, 2003. A native of Cairo, Egypt, he received his Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Florida, and was a chemistry professor at the University of South Alabama for 27 years. He was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. He is survived by his wife, Melda Jean Compton Cappas, ’56, and his son, Jan.

Wanda Kincaid Lee, ’56, of Middlesboro, Ky., died Nov. 28, 2003. She was a retired teacher in the Middlesboro Independent school system.

Dr. Oscar Rucker, ’56, of Somerse, Ky., died on March 23. He was a professor of geography and the founder of Kentucky Imprints. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Hager Rucker, ’60, and his son, Scott Rucker, Cx’86.

Ruth Elaine Shipman, ’56, of Breward, N.C., died Jan. 6. She was a retired elementary school teacher in the Transylvania County system.

Dr. Benjamin C. Sturgill, ’56, of Charlottesville, Va., died June 13. He received his medical degree from the University of Virginia School of Medicine, interned at New York Hospital, spent two years at the National Institutes of Health, and returned to the University of Virginia to join the U.Va. School of Medicine faculty. He served as professor of pathology and chair of the pathology department, winning the Robert Bennett Bean Teaching Award in 1975. In 1991, he became the associate dean and chair of the Committee on Admissions at the School of Medicine, a position he held until his retirement in June 2003. A native of Needmore, Va., Sturgill worked to admit students to the prestigious medical school. In May 2003, he received the Walter Reed Distinguished Achievement Award from the Medical Alumni Association. Also in 2003, the department of pathology established the Benjamin C. Sturgill Lectureship in Renal Disease, which each year will bring a renowned expert in the field to lecture at the University. His participation in musical activities was one of the great joys of his life. He was a founding member of the Youth Orchestra, The Oratorio Society of Charlottesville Albemarle, and Zepphras. Dr. Sturgill is survived by his wife, Eleanor Burchell Sturgill, ’55, his daughter and son-in-law, Rebecca Sturgill and William Abrams, his son and daughter-in-law, Benjamin C. Sturgill II and Annette, his mother, Kathleen Cole Sturgill, three brothers, Archie G., William J., and Ronald B., and three grandchildren.

Benjamin Lee Shanks, Cx’58, of Lexington, Ky., died March 4. In February 1954 at Berea, he became one of the first African-Americans to play integrated college basketball in the state of Kentucky. He and Coach C.H. Wyatt were pioneers whose actions were closely scrutinized. Their sportsmanship example helped ease racial tensions in Kentucky and smooth the road to today’s integrated society. Shanks served in the Korean War and worked for Skilton Construction in Lexington, Ky., for 31 years. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Richmond, Ky.

Irvine Lee Shanks

1960s

Janet Lee Eller Gomez-Yanis, ’60, of Clifton, N.J., died April 26. She was a school nurse in Vermont and health educator for the Verona Board of Health for 25 years, retiring in 2001 from H.B. Whitehouse Middle School. She was a member of the National and New Jersey School Nurses Associations, and served as president of the Essex County Nurses Association from 1980 through 1984. Mrs. Gomez-Yanis was one of the first female deacons ordained by the Montclair Heights Reformed Church. She was a member of the American Square Dance Association, Clifton. Born in Bramwell, W.Va., she lived in Verona before moving to Clifton thirteen years ago. Surviving are her husband, Conrad, two daughters, Consuelo Brennan and Christine Waqaspack, a son, Gerardo Gomez, her parents, Robert and Jessie Eller, two brothers, Michael and Wesley Eller, a sister, Beverly Aker, and five grandchildren.

Audrey Madge Francis Key, Cx’61, of Amarillo, Texas, died Feb. 29. A native of Home Creek, Va., she married Tommy L. Key of Amarillo on Aug. 14, 1961. She was a social worker with the Texas Department of Human Resources for 19 years, having worked in Amarillo, Lubbock and El Paso, retiring as a supervisor in 1993. She earned a bachelor’s degree in English from Berry College, Ga., with a BA in English and received an MA in English from Louisiana State University where she was a teaching assistant. She was an accomplished artist, having won several awards in El Paso. She was an avid reader and maintained an interest in genealogy, photography and travel. Survivors include her husband, a sister, Peggy Tredway, two brothers, Gerald Francis and Floyd Reed Francis, a sister-in-law, Kay Green, and husband, Mike, and her beloved nieces and nephews.

Nan Segar King, ’61, of Oak Park, Ill., died Nov. 6, 2002. She spent 38 years in the Chicago public school system as a teacher, counselor, assistant principal and administrator. She was instrumental in leading Whitney Young Magnet High School to become Chicago’s premier high school, offering a challenging college preparatory curriculum. After her retirement in 2001, she volunteered at the library in Oak Park. She was active in a number of civic organizations and was a member of Oak Park Field Baptist Church for 37 years. She is former president of Berea’s Chicago Alumni Chapter and served a term on the Berea College Alumni Council. She is survived by her husband, the late Leeholman, her son, Kevin, three siblings Janie Segar Hughes, Josefina Segar Hill, ’63, and David Segar, one uncle, and many nephews and nieces, including Dr. Betty Hyatt Olinger, ’69.

Joe E. Cobbler, ’62, of Stuart, Va., died April 25. Prior to retiring, he had served Patrick County Schools for thirty-seven years as an assistant superintendent, assistant principal, coach and athletic director of Patrick County High School. He also had been principal of Stuart Elementary School. He received his M.A. from the University of Virginia, and was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He is survived by his wife, Alice Collins Cobbler, one daughter, Shelley C. Martin, two sons, Page and Bill Cobbler, two sisters, Nan C. Merritt and Carolyn Cobbler, four brothers, Wayne, Marion, Douglas and Larry Cobbler, and one granddaughter.
1970s

Cecil Connor, ’72, of Montvale, Va., died on Feb. 3. He was a manager at Boone Tavern until 1980, and later established a conference and meeting planning business in Kalamazo, Mich. He also served as president of the Friends of the Montvale Library and was appointed to the board of the Board of Public Library System. He is survived by his wife, Lelotte Connor, Cx’78.

Jerry A. Johnson, ’74, of Berea, Ky., died Oct. 25, 2003. He was the owner and operator of Johnson Farm Supply co-owner of the Midlins and Garrard county stockyards, and owner of the Municipal Sign Company. He is survived by his wife, Maria.


1990s

Sheri Lynn Sisson, Cx’90, of Hebron, Ky., died June 17, 1998. She was a licensed practical nurse.

Terence Brent Todd, ’90, of Mt. Vernon, Ky., died Jan. 18. He was a lecturer and demonstrator for the department of chemistry at the University of Kentucky and was a member of the American Chemical Society. He is survived by his wife, Linda.

Robert A. “Bobby” Stewart II, ’93, of Berea, Ky., died May 25. He was a manager of the Dinner Bell restaurant in Berea. He is survived by his parents, Robert A. “Bob” Stewart, ’62 and Velma Seipel Stewart and his former wife Valerie Bolkin, ’94, and his two sons, Robert A. “Trey” Stewart III and Joshua Cole Stewart. Also surviving are his sister Debra Lynn Stewart Hall, his uncle Billy Ed Wheeler, ’35, aunt Brenda Zielke, a niece, nephew, and four cousins.

Scott E. Martin, Cx’98, of Sissonville, W.Va., died March 19, 1999. He was a student at West Virginia Tech and a member of Parsons Chapel Advent Church. He is survived by his parents, Elliott H. and Pamela J. Martin, two sisters, Lisa M. Jordan and Angela M. Walker, his maternal grandparents, and two nephews.

2000s

Starla Margarita Medina Tonning, Cx’02, of Mount Sterling, Ky., died Apr. 16. She was a gifted Native American artist, poet, writer, athlete, and musician. She was enrolled as a tribal member on the Winnebago Indian Reservation in Nebraska and stayed active throughout her educational career. She worked at Stein Mart in Lexington, Ky. She was the daughter of Barry and Kim Tonning, and sister of Derick and Shane Tonning. She is survived by numerous aunts and uncles, and her special friend, Thad Fischer.

Anne Harper Stephenson, ’63, of Berea, Ky., died on March 9. She started her career teaching first and fourth grade. She also volunteered with the Volunteer Fireman’s Auxiliary and was very active in Union Church, where she edited the church newsletter and served as co-chair of the Board of Trustees. She is survived by her husband, John Stephenson, ’57, one son, Barry Stephenson, ’91, a daughter, Susan Stephenson Robinson, a sister, Gayle Harper Buchanan, ’56, and two grandchildren.

Factory/Staff

Charles E. “Chuck” Allen, Hon.’87, of Downers Grove, Ill., died in May. A former development staff member and an honorary alumnus of Berea College, he began working at Berea on July 1, 1970, after completing a 23-year career with the YMCA. As an assistant to the president representing Berea College in the Midwest, Chuck made many generous friends for the College. Many of them also became his personal friends with, upon his retirement as a full-time representative in July 1987, endowed a cost-of-education scholarship in his honor. The Charles E. Allen Scholarship Fund, to which memorial gifts may be added, annually provides support of Berea’s no-tuition policy. Chuck remained a part-time employee of Berea until July 1990. He continued to serve Berea as a development associate who stayed in contact with many donors, made visits with his replacement Jim McCue, and kept in close touch with Rodney C. Bunsey, ’63, then vice president for development. Chuck shared with friends his good sense of humor, as well as his devotion to the students of Berea College. Just months after his retirement, Chuck’s wife Ruth died. Also a devoted Berea friend, she had requested that her memorial be an endowed scholarship fund at Berea College. Chuck faithfully created the Ruth M. Allen Fund, which also supports cost of education at Berea.

Roslyn Eckern, former home economics teacher, died Jan. 30.


Jerry L. Gald, former Boone Tavern employee, died March 6. A native of Newport, Ky., he was a resident of Berea most of his life. He is survived by his son, Scott.

John Frazier King, Hon.’90, retired Berea College forester, died March 21. He was ninety-three. A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., he was employed from 1930-1972 by the U.S. Forest Service in the Coeur d’Alene, Monongahela, and Daniel Boone national forests. After his retirement in 1972, he served as Berea College forester and consultant until his retirement in 2000. He was a graduate of the New York State Ranger School and Westminster University, and was a U.S. Navy veteran of World War II. He was a member of the Berea Kiwanis Club, American Legion, BPOE, and Society of American Foresters, and was an active member of Union Church. He is survived by his daughter, Annette King Jerwers, and one granddaughter.

George Estill Miller, retired student life employee, died Feb. 29. He worked with Berea College student activities for 12 years after a heart attack disabled him and compelled him to retire from the U.S. Forest Service, where he had served 18 years. He was a U.S. Army veteran of the Korean War, and a former member of the American Legion Post 50 in Berea. He was a member of Berea Baptist Church. He is survived by his wife, Venice Caldwell Miller; three daughters, Linda Miller Ross, ’90, Georgianna Miller Wicker, Cx’86 and Donna Ray Miller Saylor, ’89; his brother, James Ray Miller, and 12 grandchildren.

Ethel Ellen Holman Singleton, Hon.’89, retired Boone Tavern pastry chef, died Feb. 6. She retired in 1965 from Boone Tavern and was the 1989 recipient of Berea College’s Honorary Alumnus Award. She was a member of the Church of God. She is survived by three daughters, Joyce Moore, Jeri Gray, and Jeannie Johnson, two sisters, Gladys Solomon and Margaret Boggs, two brothers, James and Howard Holman, and three great-grandchildren.

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The Berea Legacy is

CHANGING STUDENTS’ LIVES

In May, more than 250 Berea College students became Berea graduates. They are entering the workforce, going on to graduate school, and looking toward a brighter future because of their Berea education.

Since 1895, bequests and other special gifts have provided student scholarships and educational programs. When you write or review your will, please consider leaving Berea College a charitable bequest for future generations of Berea students. Including Berea in your estate plans creates a perpetual legacy that will have a constant impact on the lives of students and their communities.

WHERE THERE’S A WILL, THERE’S A WAY

For Berea students.

For further information on charitable gift annuities/trusts, wills and bequests, and retained life estate gifts, please call or write:

Berea College
Office of Planned Giving
CPO 2216
Berea, KY 40404

Phone: 859.985.3002

E-mail:
Berea_College_Relations@berea.edu
Homecoming 2004, November 19-21

Catch the BEREASPIRIT!

We’ve got spirit, how ‘bout you? Of course you do! Come back to Berea during Homecoming 2004 and share the Berea experience all over again. New this year: Alums who’ve attended Berea in the past 10 years are invited to a Young Alumni Pre-Game Bash Saturday evening before the Mountaineers take on Miami University-Hamilton! Following the game, all alums are invited to catch up with their friends at Confections and Conversations, a dessert and coffee reception in Baird Lounge. Plus, the classes of 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, and 2004 will celebrate special reunions at Homecoming.

Return your Reservation today, and we’ll see you in November!

### Homecoming 2004 Registration Form

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Please indicate the number of tickets you would like to purchase for each event:

**FRIDAY, 11/19**
- Awards Banquet: _______ adult(s) at $19.00 each.

**SATURDAY, 11/20**
- Class Chilli Luncheon: _______ adult(s) at $6.00 each. _______ children ages 5 and under at $3.00 each.  
  (For classes of ‘79, ‘84, ‘89, ‘94, ‘99, ‘04, or others—please circle one!)
- Basketball Games (Men’s & Women’s): _______ adult(s) at $6.00 each. _______ children ages 10 and under at $3.00 each.
- Young Alumni Pre-Game Bash: _______ adult(s) at $15.00 each (includes cookout dinner, ticket to Basketball Games, and a donation to the Berea Fund). _______ children ages 10 and under at $7.50 each (includes dinner and game ticket).

Please indicate if you require special accessibility or assistance, or have special dietary needs during Homecoming.

Enclosed is my check for $______ - $______ of this is my contribution to the Berea Fund and $______ is for my tickets  **OR** Please charge my VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, AMERICAN EXPRESS, OR DINERS CLUB card for $______$______ of this is my contribution to the Berea Fund and $______$______ is for my tickets.

CARD ______________________ CARD Number __________________________ Expiration Date ________

Signature of Card holder ________________________________________

Due to limited availability of tickets, reservations must be made by November 12, 2004.
Mail reservation form to: Berea College Alumni Association, CPO 2203, Berea, KY 40404
FAX to 859.985.3178, e-mail renee_deaton@berea.edu, or call 1.800.457.9846.