On the Inside

14 Jonas Friddle
16 The Long Way Home
19 Tutu’s Stirring Commencement Address
24 Year of the Ecovillage
Students line up for commencement in the stairwell of Draper Hall, May 2005.
Inside this issue

SUMMER 2005 : Volume 76 Number 1 : www.berea.edu

Berea College Magazine

COVER STORY

19

Tutu’s Stirring Commencement Address
“Class of 2005, you are masterpieces in the making.”

Features

14 Jonas Friddle
2005 Watson Fellowship

16 The Long Way Home

19 Archbishop Desmond Tutu Inspires Graduates to Be Fellow Workers with God

22 Student Awards
Hilda Welch Wood Winner (Jana Vandegrift)
T.J. Wood Winner (Jeffrey Hurt)

24 Berea Kicks Off “Year of the Ecovillage” with Dedication Ceremony

25 Campaign News

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.
On a sunny May afternoon I watched 240 students cross the stage to receive their diplomas in front of Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Exuberant parents cheered, “That’s my girl!” Some graduates carried flowers in their hands; others carried tears on their cheeks. There were high fives, hurrahs, and hugs.

Moments before, Archbishop Tutu had delivered one of the most stirring commencement speeches I have ever heard. Enormous waves of love and energy radiated from him across a sea of graduates, parents, faculty, and friends. As he lifted his hands, each person leaned forward as if to receive a blessing. Archbishop Tutu reminded us that ALL lives are lives of great promise, that wherever we arrive, we ALL are carried on the shoulders of others, and that our responsibility is to uplift ALL those around us. We are ALL the hands of God, he reminded us, and he urged these graduates to go and make a difference in the world as God’s co-laborers.

One thing I’ve noticed about Berea College is the way its faculty, staff, and students care for and about the world. The Academic Awards received in April gave a glimmer of the powerful accolades one receives for stringent, intellectual work and academic rigor; but as Bishop Stacy Sauls, of the Diocese of Lexington, suggested in his baccalaureate address, it’s not all about the learning. “Love first, Knowledge second,” he urged. “What will you do with all that learning?”

The pages here are filled with stories of Berea College students, graduates, and faculty who have embraced the world and each other with healing and helping hands. I’m deeply impressed by these world citizens who apply their knowledge to better their communities because it is an act of love to do so. You’ll find stories of community activists like Eula Hall, who built a health clinic for indigent Appalachians, international alumni Soneath Hor and Joan Kagwanja who have used their degrees to better the lives of those in their homelands, and the many award-winning students and faculty whose labor, learning, and love are applied for the betterment of the environment, of communities, of at risk or underprivileged youth.

In these pages, of course, you’ll read about Archbishop Tutu and his inspirational address, but read also about the many amazing things our students are doing and have done. They are the reason we are here.

As we celebrate 150 years as a College, this magazine will offer both perspectives and retrospectives. Send us stories of the teachers who made a difference, labor positions you held, places you traveled, places your Berea education has carried you. I’m eager to hear from you.
Ten blue community bikes seen whizzing across campus under blue skies in April marked the initiation of a long-running student campaign known as Berea Bikes. Sponsored by the College’s ecology group Helping Earth and Learning (HEAL), Berea Bikes makes available free and accessible transportation around town for Berea College students. Students pick up bikes at a designated station, ride to class, and leave the bike for other students to travel around campus to their desired location.

The project includes a self-sufficient Learning Bike Shop incorporated into the college’s labor program.

“This project builds community, encourages learning of practical life skills, and promotes sustainability through bike maintenance and riding,” said student organizer Leah Devine, ’06, of Elkins, WV. Organizers hope to find more bikes and accessories, as well as operating funds and volunteers to repair bikes. Support for Berea Bikes has been provided by the Student Government Association, Wellness and Campus Activities, La Vida Nueva, Seabury Center, Coalition for Community Building, CELTS, and Berea College Public Safety.

Berea Named “College with a Conscience”

Many colleges and universities today make it a priority to foster social responsibility and public service on their campuses. The Princeton Review and Campus Compact named Berea College as one of those colleges in a new book on the subject, Colleges with a Conscience: 81 Great Schools with Outstanding Community Involvement published by Random House in June.

“This book highlights the exceptional work of our member campuses and the wonderful opportunities that exist for students to improve community life and demonstrate social responsibility,” said Campus Compact executive director Elizabeth Hollander. “These schools epitomize higher education in service to the public good.”

The Princeton Review and Campus Compact selected four-year colleges and universities based on admissions practices and scholarships that reward community service; offer support for service-learning programs, student activism, and a student voice in school governance; and show a high level of social engagement from the student body. Reviewing more than 950 member schools, the editors considered extensive data about service programs and policies, as well as survey data from students, faculty, and staff.

Colleges with a Conscience contains two-page profiles on each college, providing detailed information about civic engagement and service-learning programs on campus, in the classroom, and in the community. The book includes advice for college applicants, as well as information on how to obtain financial support for service projects. Student profiles share perspectives, describe civic engagement activities, and offer advice and experience.
David and Wulsin Join Berea College Trustees

Dr. Chella S. David, ’61, an immunologist and professor at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine, and Drausin F. Wulsin, an environmentalist and director of major gifts for the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden, were elected to the Berea College Board of Trustees at the Board’s 2005 spring meeting. Each will serve a six-year term beginning immediately.

David is the Alice Sheets Marriott professor in the department of immunology at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine in Rochester, MN. Mayo Clinic Distinguished Investigator for 2004, he also directs the largest research laboratory, which focuses on the relationship between genetics and specific autoimmune diseases. For his contribution to medical research, David recently received the Ranbaxy Research Award from the president of India, his native country.

Wulsin has been director of major gifts for the Cincinnati Zoo since 2002. For 13 years he was president of Red Stone Farm, Inc. in Ohio, one of the first farms in the state to develop a New Zealand-style, grass-based, seasonal dairy. In the Cincinnati area, he serves on the boards of several organizations, including the Cincinnati Nature Center, Green Acres Foundation, and Tri-State Environmental Resource Center.

House-Building Builds Human Spirit

While other students traveled to the beach for spring break, 19 volunteer students with the College chapter of Habitat for Humanity traveled to Winston-Salem, NC to build houses. The group worked with local AmeriCorps volunteers, community members, and the Forsyth County Habitat for Humanity staff to roof and build seven houses under construction for local partner families.

“This was not just about building houses. It reminded us of human worth from both serving and being served,” project volunteer Hans Burkholder, ’06, said.

Each Berea student remarked that the experience of selfless contribution to others changed them in some way. Said one volunteer, “I have been given more through my service with Habitat than I can ever hope to give back.”

Burkholder likened the experience of building a home for another individual to building the World House, by which Martin Luther King, Jr. meant the dwelling place of all nations, peoples, and religions. “When you straighten your aching back at the end of the job, you don’t see individual shingles anymore,” said Burkholder. “You see a roof. Then you look around and somehow don’t see individual people in the same way you did before either. You see humanity. No shingle is made to stand alone. No man or woman is made to stand alone in our world. Every shingle covers the weaker parts of the one below it, and is itself partially shielded from the elements by those above it.”

Hutchins Library Funded for Project on Council of Southern Mountains

The Special Collections and Archives Department at Hutchins Library received a two-year $89,280 grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission to process the records of the Council of the Southern Mountains (CSM), 1970-89. This material completes the already processed Council records from 1912-70. These CSM records will provide a unique resource for studying the shifting style, content, and direction of social reform efforts in southern Appalachia during much of the twentieth century.

Laura Anne Heller has been appointed project archivist.

To complement the CSM materials, the Special Collections and Archives Department also received a $2,500 grant from the Kentucky Oral History Commission to support the CSM oral history project being coordinated by Berea College sound archivist, Harry Rice.
On Labor Day, We Rested

Student workers took the day off college-wide to celebrate with food and fun during the annual Berea College Labor Day. The holiday focuses on appreciation for students and the work they do to support Berea through their heads, hands, and hearts. So spirited were the students that their zest could not be confined until Tuesday, thus a street dance began Monday night in front of Boone Tavern, and the public quickly joined.

The festival began early Tuesday with a pancake breakfast that turned into a midday picnic in the Seabury Center with music and games inside. Contests and games provided hours of fun while live musical performances, such as the Black Music Ensemble and the Bluegrass Ensemble, entertained the crowd. The evening concluded with a cookout at the Alumni Building patio and concert performances by the College’s Wind Ensemble, Jazz Orchestra, and the Contemporary Percussion Ensemble in the Woods-Penniman Building Commons.

Although all students were recognized for their hard work, Tiffany Hamilton, ’04, was given the Student Employee of the Year Award. The financial award is given by the James N. and Leila Cranford Hardy Fund to recognize a student for reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism, and uniqueness of contribution. Hamilton, student coordinator for the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good program, hopes to pursue an MBA at the University of Tennessee and, ultimately, establish a teen mentoring program in her hometown, Knoxville, TN. She also won a regional award from the Midwest Association of Student Employee Administrators.

College bookstore buyer and merchandiser Janet Tronc received the award for Outstanding Labor Supervisor of the Year. Dina Schmal was recognized with the Julia and Norbert Stammer Appalachian Service Award for her work through the Appalachian Center and Students for Appalachia.

Service Awards Recognize National and Local Activists: Wayne Meisel, Martha Pride, and Craig Williams

Berea College’s annual Service Awards recognize individuals who have rendered outstanding service to society while achieving the ideals of the College’s Great Commitments.

Wayne Meisel, President of the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, has traveled to more than 70 campuses from Maine to Washington to campaign for student involvement in community service. The Bonner Foundation supports scholarships for low-income students at 25 colleges in the South and the Midwest. Meisel also helped to establish the Campus Outreach Opportunity League (COOL), which served as a platform for students to lead their peers to serve others and bring about positive change.

Dr. Martha Pride, vice chair of the Board of the Madison County Health Department and retired nursing faculty member, joined the Berea College Nursing Department in 1962 and has served as community member on the Berea Hospital Board of Directors. She received the Hixson Award for her contribution for the Kiwanis International Iodine Deficiency Program.

For more than 20 years Craig Williams has played an active role in protecting people and the environment from the consequences of war. Through his humanitarian efforts with the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, an organization that won the 1997 Nobel Peace Prize, he has fought to eradicate land mines in Vietnam, Cambodia, and other countries. His community efforts on behalf of the Chemical Weapons Working Group and the Kentucky Environmental Foundation have opposed the incineration of chemical weapons at eight national sites, including the Madison County Bluegrass Army Depot.
**$100,000 Grant from Fifth Third Bank Helps Single Mothers**

One way Berea College realizes its historic commitment to education for women is through education for single parents, primarily from the Appalachian region. This year, Berea enrolled approximately 40 single parents (including men). In addition to the full-tuition scholarship that every Berea student is guaranteed, Berea provides support for student families through housing in the Ecovillage and on-site child care. Other support includes vehicle sharing among Ecovillage residents, parenting classes, and counseling provided by on-site support staff.

Fifth Third Bank established the $100,000 Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Scholarship to help fund the annual cost of education at Berea College for a single mother. Previously, the Schmidlapp Fund provided a $58,000 grant to fund a four-year education scholarship for a female student of Appalachian background from the Cincinnati area.

The Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund was created in 1908 by a gift from Jacob C. Schmidlapp in memory of his daughter, Charlotte, who died in an auto accident at age 19. Grants from the fund are restricted to helping women establish themselves in life.

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**W.K. Kellogg Foundation Supports Brushy Fork Institute**

When former College President John Stephenson founded Brushy Fork Institute, he knew that local leadership was an important part of supporting healthy, sustainable mountain communities. Through support from the Appalachian Fund, the Wayne and Ida Bowman Foundation, and Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation, Brushy Fork Institute created its award-winning Leadership Development program. Those who have attended it often say, “I wish everyone in my community had the chance to go to Brushy Fork Institute.”

As part of their mandate to help people learn to help themselves, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation of Battle Creek, MI offered Brushy Fork $198,000 over three years to develop new leadership skills-building opportunities to benefit Appalachia. This fall 2005, Brushy Fork offered its first Annual Institute at Berea College, and in fall 2006, the intensive Community Transformation Program debuts. These regional programs promote increased connections among individuals and organizations engaged in community work.

Community leaders who registered to attend Brushy Fork’s Annual Institute on September 14-17, 2005, participated in intensive hands-on sessions on topics such as community economic development, nonprofit management, fundraising, and running for public office. Participants heard nationally renowned presenters, such as Dr. Vaughn Grisham, Director of the George McLean Institute for Community Development. Grisham helped guide extraordinarily successful community development efforts in Tupelo, MS. Participants will hear how techniques used there may be applied in their own communities.

During fall 2006, one community will partner with Brushy Fork to implement the Community Transformation Program. Brushy Fork Institute Director Peter Hille notes, “We are looking for a community that is at the tipping point—a community that, with an extra push, will gain the momentum needed to sustain local, long-term development efforts.” Over an extended period, community leaders will begin in-depth development work, while Brushy Fork offers leadership development workshops and technical assistance.

The new Annual Institute and the Community Transformation Program builds on Brushy Fork Institute’s 17 years of experience working in central Appalachian communities to promote leadership that is developmental, collaborative, accountable, ethical, and effective.
Compton Fellows Tricia Feeney and Jessica Culver Clark Begin a Year of Service

Jessica Culver Clark, '04, and Patricia Feeney, '05, became part of an elite group of five nationwide college graduates to receive a 2006 Compton Mentor Fellowship to spend a year working for the public good. Each received $35,000 to support her service project.

Clark, a child development major from Ashland, KY, received the fellowship for her project “Opening Another Door,” which examines the roles education and work play in deterring the cycle of multiple unplanned pregnancies. Next year, alongside mentor Jean Terry of the Parent Resource Center, she will develop a job training program for teen mothers at the Florence Crittenden Home and Family Care Center in Lexington, KY. Clark will use her work to create a model curriculum for others. Drawing on her love of the loom and the expertise she gained during her student labor as a weaver, Clark will assist interested teen mothers with designing and producing high-quality, marketable crafts. During a student internship last year, she taught wellness to teen mothers at the Florence Crittenden Home.

Feeney, a biology major from Birmingham, AL, gained her fellowship for a project called “Resources and Solidarity: Coalition Building for Water Security in Appalachian Mining Communities.” In conjunction with the Appalachian Coalition for Just and Sustainable Communities in Boone, NC, she will work at the grassroots level to protect mountain water supplies and to study water pollution caused by mountaintop removal coal mining.

For the past two years, Feeney was part of the nationwide Student Energy Justice Movement. While living in the Ecovillage Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) demonstration house in Berea, she worked as a student director with the SENS program. With HEAL (Helping Earth and Learning), a student-run organization, she pushed for greater reliance on renewable energy sources as the College becomes a more environmentally sustainable campus.

Founded in 1973 by Randolph and Dorothy Compton, the Compton Foundation supports selected graduates who partner with a mentor to apply their academic learning to improve policies and programs related to peace, population, sustainable development, and/or the environment.

Berea was the only college to receive two fellowships this year.

Jessica Fagan Recognized by Udall Foundation for Environmental Studies

Jessica Fagan, '07, of Blacksburg, VA, a student director living and working in the Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) house, received an honorable mention for excellence from the Morris K. Udall National Environmental Policy Foundation. Recognition from the Udall Foundation is given to college sophomores and juniors committed to careers in environmental studies. Each national recipient is selected by independent review on the basis of commitment to careers in the environment, health care, or tribal public policy, leadership potential, and academic achievement.

Two Seniors Receive Parker Achievement Awards at KABHE

Seniors Ashonti Davis, '05, of Nashville, TN and Crystal Hampton, '05, of Salina, KS received Dr. William C. Parker Achievement Awards during the Kentucky Association of Blacks in Higher Education (KABHE) annual conference held in April. The award includes a $500 scholarship and was named for Dr. William C. Parker, first KABHE president.

More than 100 members of public, private, community college, and state education organizations attended the 22nd annual conference held at Berea College. KABHE promotes the advancement of blacks in higher education by articulating concerns, promoting unity, cooperation and awareness, and enhancing personal and professional growth.

Davis, a communications major, is a member of the student environmental organization HEAL (Helping Earth and Learning), serves as a peer mentor in the local middle school, and volunteers weekly at Mountain Maternal Clinic in Berea. A prize-winning orator with the speech and debate team, Davis is also a member of the Mortar Board and Lambda Pi Theta academic honor societies. Upon graduation, she will pursue a law degree.

During her eight semesters, Hampton, a business major, made the Dean’s List six times. On campus she served as Black Student Union secretary, as well as student chaplain, and sign language coordinator with the Black Music Ensemble. For three years she tutored students at Berea Community School in math, reading, and science; she was also a news writer for The Pinnacle student newspaper. Upon graduation, Hampton joined the Teach for America program. In the fall she will pursue an advanced degree in non-profit management and urban development.
Three Student Service Groups Honored with Dingman Awards

At the conclusion of spring term, three collaborative teams received recognition for their work to improve Appalachian communities. The Helen Dingman Book Award, named for a former Berea sociology professor, honors students whose work during the semester reflects the synthesis of learning, labor, and service.

Melvin Cowan, ’06, of Lexington, KY; Mamadou Diallo, ’06, of Ghana; Carolyn McQueen, ’06, of Berea, KY, and Cindie Mills, ’06, of Inez, KY worked in the Clearfork Valley, TN community as Fellows for the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG). Alongside community leaders they constructed a development plan for the Clearfork Community Institute. Their final collaborative project produced a comprehensive, 175-page Community Center Development Plan that included a mission statement, floor plans, budget, grant resources, and marketing, and fundraising strategies. Through their hearts, heads, and hands, these students made a valuable contribution to the prosperity and sustainability of the Clearfork community.

SENS house directors Kati Maginel, ’06, of Cape Girardeau, MO; Megan Naseman, ’07, of Anna, OH; Jessica Fagan, ’07, of Blacksburg, VA; Leslie Ferguson, ’05, of Waynesville, NC; Denise Won, ’06, of San Francisco, CA; and Jordan Rumsey, ’05, of Fresno, OH received awards for their outstanding work within and for the Ecovillage and community. In collaboration with the Child Development Lab (CDL) staff, the students designed lesson plans for a CDL teaching garden to help residents and children better understand sustainability, developed a composting program for using food waste in the garden, developed educational materials on ecology, and operated and monitored the Ecological Machine. The students joined local citizens to create the Berea College Local Foods Initiative to support locally grown products.

Associate professor Martie Kazura’s marketing research class also received Dingman Book Awards for a collaborative research project that evaluated customer service at various College industries, including the Log House Craft Gallery.

In 1925 Dr. Helen Dingman established the College’s Opportunity School program, worked for the Presbyterian Home Missions Board in Harlan County, and in 1929-42 served as Executive Secretary for the Council of the Southern Mountains in an effort to draw attention to the need of the mountain people.

Hutchins Award Recognizes Artistic Excellence

Nearly a dozen students received Hutchins Awards for their achievements in literature, art, and music. First place winners included Hannah Cameron, ’05, from Vass, NC, Krista H. Bowker, ’05, of Hutchins, KS, and Stewart Stone, ’06, from Lexington, KY.

Cameron’s “Suite of Hearts #1,” which won the visual arts category, represents the loss of childhood magical thinking through the mechanization of the human heart. Krista H. Bowker, ’05, of Hutchins, KS, took first place in music for her composition, “Deus Gloria,” or “Glory of God.” Her piece was written for the Recorder Ensemble and was performed at the Christmas Concert, at Danforth Chapel worship services, and an art opening at Rogers Art Building.

Stewart Stone, ’06, from Lexington took first place in literature. “Blood on Hallowed Ground” and “Little Girl X” are two performance poems that give voice to issues and concerns in the black community.

The Hutchins Awards were established in 1965 by friends and admirers of Francis S. Hutchins, former president of Berea College. The annual awards foment the talents of juniors and seniors in the field of the humanities.
Two Receive Wierwille Athletic Scholarships

Juniors Johnna Whittamore, ’06, of Berea, KY and Ashlee Crump, ’06, of Lexington, KY received Roland R. Wierwille Athletic Awards this spring. The award, named for the former men’s Berea basketball coach and NAIA Hall of Fame player, honors those students whose character reflects a sense of discipline, dedication, and determination both on and off the field.

Short stop and outfielder Johnna Whittamore maintains a 3.64 GPA in Business Administration, is a member of the Mortar Board Honor Society, and was named to the all-conference softball team during her freshman and sophomore years at Berea. She volunteers as a soccer and softball coach in area schools. She was nominated by softball coach Scott Buchanan.

Ashlee Crump was praised for her commitment to both academics and her basketball team. Coach Bunky Harkleroad said that forward Crump showed tremendous leadership both on and off the court, never missing practice or workouts. She maintains a 3.1 GPA in psychology.
Five long-time employees retired in May, after having offered the College 142 years of combined service. Marilyn Feldkamp worked as office manager for Recreation Extension from 1988-95 and as office manager for Special Programs from 1995-2004. Special Programs director Dreama Gentry called Marilyn the “traffic controller for our busy office. We will miss her tremendously; she brought not only stability, but compassion and caring to our office.”

Becky Nelson, ’65, worked 33 years in several capacities, most recently as senior development writer. At one time she and husband David were head residents of Talcott Hall; now they live in Lexington. “I’m excited about moving to Lexington,” said Becky, “but I will miss Berea and all its memories.”

Paul David Nelson, ’65, Julian-Van Dusen Chair in American History, retired after 35 years in the classroom. He says he will miss the students, teaching, and his colleagues. Author of eight American history biographies and numerous scholarly publications, Nelson intends to continue his research and writing.

Alfred Perkins, history and general studies professor, retired to Florida during the summer of 2004. He came to Berea in 1986 as Academic Vice President and College Dean. Former colleague and Special Collections archivist Steve Gowler, remembered him as “a strong advocate of the liberal arts, international study and travel, and of interracial education and understanding.”

Assistant professor of art and art instructor to the Berea Community School from 1967-2003, Christopher Pierce founded and taught in the Berea Creative Arts Program for children from 1978-99. This spring, Pierce exhibited on campus a collection of his works, “Recent Painting and Retrospect.” The retirees received their choice of a handcrafted cherry clock or a hand-woven throw from Student Crafts in appreciation for their College employment.

Berea College Faculty Receive Presidential Citation from American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

Berea College’s Department of Physical Education, Health, and Athletics (PEH) received a presidential citation by the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (AAHPERD) at the organization’s April national convention in Chicago.

Presidential awards recognize individuals and organizations who have played a significant role in developing the profession, advocating the mission of the Alliance, and supporting the Alliance President in her leadership role. Berea College received the award “in recognition of outstanding support of the promotion of health, physical education, recreation, and dance,” and specifically, “in appreciation for their belief in the potential and goodness within all people and their dedication to providing an education to assure the fruition of that potential.”

Joy Hager, professor and associate department chair, accepted the award on behalf of the department and the College. Other Berea faculty attending the ceremony and convention included department chair and director of dance programs Susan Spalding; associate professor and athletics director Joan Weston; associate professor Mike Johnson; associate professor Martha Beagle; associate professor Kris Wright; assistant professor Kelly Ambrose, and assistant professor Melody Srsic.

AAHPERD President Shirley Ann Holt Hale, ’66, presented the award. Holt Hale is a former physical education instructor at Berea College, an elementary physical education teacher in Oak Ridge, TN for 30 years, and a former National Physical Education Teacher of the Year. In 2003, Holt Hale became the first elementary PE teacher chosen to lead AAHPERD.
Dr. Tammy Horn’s recent book Bees in America: How the Honey Bee Shaped a Nation is causing a buzz in the literary world. Since the time she was a child in Estill County, she knew she wanted to write a book but never imagined the subject would be bees. “I didn’t know a honeybee from a yellow jacket until I was twenty-nine,” Tammy admits.

She spent many childhood visits with her grandfather, a retired teacher and beekeeper. He told her about growing up in Letcher County, where cutting down bee trees was the accepted mountain method of harvesting honey.

In 1975, Tammy and her sister moved to South Dakota so their parents could teach on an Indian reservation. The poverty of the reservation overwhelmed her. Of course, she’d seen needy people before, but now she saw the ubiquitous poverty of the reservation as a social injustice. It was not until years later that Tammy found the connection between a sociological dilemma and bees.

During America’s colonization, the commonly used analogy between bees and people emphasized a point about socioeconomic status. In simple terms, society (like a beehive) was made up of those who work (worker bees) to support the Queen and themselves, and those who don’t or can’t contribute (drones). American colonists coming to the Land of Milk and Honey were duty-bound to swarm the new continent and create a new hive.

The virtue of staying “busy as a bee” derived from a belief that all in nature was patterned after a divine plan. Poor people were equated with idle and expendable drones, deserving of their lower station in life. By following this train of thought, Tammy observes, colonial people “chose to ignore the real causes of poverty: unemployment, medical emergency, racism, and discrimination.” Consequently, people continued to suffer poverty even in the land of opportunity.

In later years, Tammy lingered over the idea that poverty was a human condition, rather than a divine ordination. “(John G.) Fee understood that many social issues regarding race were created by humans, not a divine presence,” she said. Berea’s founding history remained in her thoughts as she wrote Bees In America. Bee culture, beekeepers, and the moral values represented by the life of bees in the hive all had major influence on how societies viewed themselves. Tammy pursued these ideas and saw a parallel development in modern beekeeping. As pesticides and urbanization have changed beekeeping, so have war, pesticides, and urbanization changed the hive of human society.

While working on her dissertation in Alabama, she regularly traveled to Kentucky to help her ailing grandfather with beekeeping duties. During this stressful time of career decisions, personal issues, and her grandfather’s failing health, Tammy found that, as if from a scene from her favorite movie, Ulee’s Gold, the orderliness of tending the bee yard helped her to find order in her own life.

“Opening up a hive of bees, inhaling the cinnamon-y smell of the beeswax, and tending the hives became a therapeutic way of finding the stability I was searching for,” she said.

When she returned to Kentucky in 2000, she began to write about her work with bees. Subsequently, the University Press of Kentucky asked her to write a history of bees to update the last such history published in 1938. In 2002 she returned to Berea College, from which she had graduated in 1990, to teach general studies.

In retrospect, it seems a natural progression for her travels to have taken her flying from flower to flower across the country, only to return so close to home. “When my Berea College professors Gene Startzman and Carol de Rosset turned me on to early American literature and history, I was hooked,” said Tammy. Her professors made her feel that through historical research and writing, she could tackle anything. “I want to challenge my students that way.”

“Coming back to teach at Berea has been so important,” she said. “It’s given me a way to combine my two passions.”
Jonas Friddle, ’05, has two passions—theatre and music. As a 2005 Watson Fellow, for one glorious year he’ll be able to spend all his time performing and exploring these arts in communities around the world.

Fiddle’s Watson project will take him to Ireland, Scotland, Australia, and Canada, where he will focus on live music, dance, and theatre that is local, regional, or national in origin.

Fiddle, one of 50 recent graduates from the nation’s top liberal arts colleges who were awarded a $22,000 Watson Fellowship, will spend a year of self-directed exploration and travel. The fellowship enables recipients to follow a passion, or independently and intensively study an interest they’ve nurtured for a long time. Fiddle, an English and theatre major from Black Mountain, NC, is the 23rd Berea graduate to receive a Watson Fellowship.

The Watson Foundation is a charitable trust founded in 1961 by the widow of Thomas J. Watson Sr. to honor her husband, the founder of IBM. In 1968, the Watson children established the fellowship program in recognition of their parents’ continued interest in education and world affairs. Award recipients are selected on the basis of character, leadership potential, willingness to immerse themselves in new cultures, and passion for the proposed project.

Fiddle’s Watson project will take him to Ireland, Scotland, Australia, and Canada. There he’ll focus on live music, dance, and theatre that is local, regional, or national in subject matter or cultural origin. Fiddle will concentrate on the ways these performing arts enrich community life.

“I see the arts at their best as small community-building experiences where the goal is fellowship and communication,”
Friddle said, noting that with the increase in readily available mass media, people have become less interested in performance arts.

From his own experience, Friddle knows it doesn’t have to be that way. His father, Joe Friddle, continues to perform music with his college roommate around the Black Mountain area. At age 12, Jonas took up guitar; he debuted in his first play during high school. At Berea’s Theatre Laboratory, he grew into an actor, director, and designer, in addition to working three years as a sound technician in the college labor program. In 2002, Friddle, Greg Johns, ’03, and Clay Goodpasture, ’04, started a Berea community theatre group called the John Goodfriddle Theatre Company.

In 2003, he began playing bass with the Berea College Bluegrass Ensemble, although he had never played the instrument before. “I had taken guitar lessons from Al White (music instructor at Berea and the group’s leader),” said Friddle. “They needed a bass player, so I jumped in.”

During the group’s subsequent two-week tour in Ireland, Friddle discovered in their host community of Carragaline the ability of music to draw people together in ways he hadn’t experienced previously. “Nearly every night they gathered and shared as a whole community in traditional music and dance. These people would simply rather spend their time dancing together than alone watching television in their homes.”

Inspired by his observation, Friddle decided to spend the first third of his Watson year in Carragaline. He said, “I want to learn what it takes to create a community environment like that.” The other side of that coin will be studying the kind of people who emerge from those arts-rich communities as well.

While exploring traditional music and dance, Friddle also plans to experience Irish and Scottish theatre, including the Abbey in Ireland and the Scottish blue-collar 7:84 Theatre Company. In Australia, he’ll spend four months in Illawarra, an area rich in traditional Australian music, including Aboriginal Bush music. Friddle’s final four months will be spent in Canada, studying how diverse cultures use music and theatre to express and preserve their unique heritages.

He has no definite plans upon return, although pursuing an advanced degree in creative writing, directing, and teaching appeals to him. “The most tangible thing I am likely to come out with is the ability to run an arts center—to have dabbled in enough areas and gained enough variety in those areas to understand how to fill communities’ needs for art, specifically theatre, music, and dance.”

For now, however, Friddle is packing. “I’m going to take my fiddle with me and I’ll get to play music wherever I’m going. I’m excited about what I’m going to do and the people I’m going to meet.”
The Long Way Home

By Julie Sowell

Joan Kagwanja, ’90, grew up in the economically depressed, but peaceful Kenyan countryside. Soneath Hor, ’01, endured years of hardship in a war-devastated country thousands of miles away. Berea College graduates ten years apart, each shared a common vision: to seek education abroad, then return to their homelands to improve the quality of life there.

Joan Kagwanja, a Kenya native, works as an agricultural economist with the United Nations Economic Commission on Africa (UNECA). After earning her Ph.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia in 1996, she returned to Africa as a post-doctoral fellow at Ethiopia’s International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI). With ILRI she has documented the economic and environmental impacts of livestock disease control. In her four years with UNECA, her wide-ranging work includes policy research, advocacy, and encouraging sustainable development for all African member states of the United Nations.

“By working with African governments to build sound development policies that stimulate sustainable economic growth,” says Kagwanja, “I hope to help alleviate poverty in Africa.”

She also contributes to efforts that encourage Africa’s development partners and African governments to conduct mutual accountability reviews so that developmental aid is used in a transparent and accountable manner. “Only when there is good governance and accountability will Africa’s resources and those received from donors be used to benefit the poor,” says Kagwanja. “I am convinced that good governance will attract our brothers and sisters in diaspora to return home and contribute directly to building the continent,” she said.

Employed with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the investment banking arm of the World Bank, Soneath Hor hopes his work as an economist will improve the quality of life for those in his native Cambodia, one of the IFC’s 177 developing member countries. The IFC provides loans, equity financing, and technical assistance for small- and medium-sized locally owned businesses in the developing world, as well as offering technical assistance and advice to governments. Since earning his M.A. in political economy at Fordham University in 2003, Hor has worked with IFC programs in Phnom Penh, which serves a tri-nation Mekong River region.

“I wanted to pursue a career that would expose me to innovative ideas and enable me to help my country,” says Hor. “I have a moral responsibility to serve those people back home who do not have the same opportunities to receive a high quality education that I had.”

His ultimate goal is to contribute to economic growth and job creation in Cambodia, which, because of its high birth rate, has an estimated 220,000 Cambodians entering the labor force each year. World Bank data in 2004 indicates that 45 percent of the Cambodian population lives on less than $1 per day. Reducing poverty for almost half of the country’s 13 million people is critical.

“There is poverty in every country, but it is more acute for a post-conflict country like Cambodia,” says Hor. “International experiences show that a vibrant, competitive private sector is the clearest path to economic growth and poverty reduction.”

One project he created was a guide for Cambodian businesses on the particulars of working with the World Trade Organization (WTO). Once Cambodia gained membership to the WTO in 2004, its business people needed more awareness of both the benefits and competition of doing business with other countries. Hor’s guide was designed to help them understand what WTO membership would mean for them in a variety of areas, such as the import and export business.

One key to continued progress is finding people, like Hor, who want to help their country get on its feet. “Cambodia needs fresh minds and commitment to rebuild the country,” says Hor. “Helping to educate Cambodians is the right thing to do. In the end you need human capital more than anything else to make any development sustainable.”

The educational goals and the desires that led Kagwanja and Hor to attend Berea College, and then to return home were similar, but the roads by which they traveled to get to Berea were markedly different.

Joan Kagwanja spent her early childhood working with cousins and

Soneath Hor in his Phnom Penh office where he provides technical assistance to private sector businesses in Cambodia.
relatives on her family’s farm, located on the southeast slopes of Mt. Kenya, second highest mountain in Africa. She remembers picking coffee beans as a child and eating a lot of maize, beans, cabbage, onions, millet, and potatoes. “As is the case in many African families, I grew up around extended family,” says Kagwanja. “I had a pretty normal and happy childhood.”

Gaining an education, or having a lack thereof, was a motivating factor in Kagwanja’s life. Her father was an educator, a missionary school teacher, and later an accountant; he served on the boards of numerous schools and colleges in Kenya. On the other hand, her mother gave up education beyond primary school, “so that her brothers could attend school, since there was not enough money for all the children,” said Kagwanja. “Preference was given to the boys, and the girls worked the farms to earn money for their brothers’ school fees.” As an adult, her mother took responsibility for managing the family farm and caring for the family.

At age three, Kagwanja began nursery school in her district, and at age nine, she enrolled in a missionary boarding primary school outside her village. “Only this way could parents ensure that their children had a quality education,” she says. She recalls learning to wash clothes, clean the dorms, braid her own hair, and keep up with classes, too. The new responsibilities taught her self-reliance.

For nine years she stayed in boarding schools, seeing her family only during holidays in April, August, and December. After high school graduation, Kagwanja worked in Nairobi for a coffee-processing firm. On her 21st birthday she reluctantly left that job to help her sister in Edmonton, Canada with childcare. Away from home, she explored the possibility of further schooling, when a friend of her sister’s told her about Berea College.

In 1974 in a war-torn village in Cambodia’s southern Svay Rieng province on the Vietnam border, Soneath Hor was born. The civil war raging outside made it too dangerous for his mother to continue her labor in their house, so she gave birth “inside a bunker, under a bamboo bush while mortar shells landed only two hundred yards from the bunker,” Hor says. After the five-year war ended in 1975, the horrors of the Khmer Rouge era began. During the four years from 1975-79 approximately 1.7 million people (21 percent of Cambodia’s population) died from starvation, disease, or execution. As a boy growing up during this time, Hor worked on collective farms with other children his age, often finding himself separated from one or both of his parents. “Sometimes, when my father could, he took me to his work. While carrying me on his shoulders, he pointed out some old, partly destroyed buildings. He told me that they used to be schools,” recalls Hor. “I did not even know what the word ‘school’ was,” he says, “but after he explained it, I wished very much to go to school one day.”

At age 10 his wish came true; while his family lived in refugee camps in Thailand near Cambodia’s border, Hor attended school. Due to frequent moves, he turned 15 before completing his primary education. Over the next five years, a determined Hor earned the equivalent of a junior high diploma, and completed a program of higher-level courses.

On his own for the first time in Thailand he found a university, the Cambodian School of Law and Public Administration, run by expatriates who also taught him English. “We had no income and we survived only through food rations from the U.N. After two days we always ran out of fish and vegetables and, for the rest of week, we had to eat rice fried in vegetable oil. Given all this, I was not discouraged,” he says.

When peace returned to Cambodia, Hor lived in Phnom Penh, supporting himself through work as a translator, research assistant, and interviewer. Unable to afford further education, he heard about Berea College from a former colleague. The clear purpose that spurred him to apply to Berea College continues in order to make sound recommendations to the government, Joan leads discussions with farmers in rural Ethiopia.

In the absence of roads, donkeys are still the main mode of transporting goods to the market in rural Ethiopia. “It bothers me that it takes many farmers up to three days on foot to get to a market,” says Joan.
to motivate him today. In his 1997 college application, he wrote, “With all the hard life I have gone through and the suffering of my compatriots, all of which are the consequences of the two decades-long civil war, I really want to help my people... We have a lot to do to catch up with other nations. I am applying to your college in the hope that you will help in building my country through investing in me.”

Berea College did invest in these worthy students, Kagwanja and Hor, who gave as much as they took from their educations. For example, while at the College, Hor taught high school students about Cambodia and its culture during the summer.

“I owe a lot of what I am and what I have accomplished to Berea College,” says Kagwanja. “Berea provided me, fresh from Africa, a safe and calm environment to learn and grow. The quality of education and the dedication of the teaching and support staff are second to none. I took courses I never would have had the opportunity to take elsewhere. The labor program and my assignments taught me to value work as service no matter the type of work. Berea taught me tolerance of other people. And the relationships, genuine relationships with Berea students and staff, have been everlasting,” she says.

“All these experiences push me toward opening a door for people in need all over the world. They push me towards doing something for Africa because I know no effort is too small to make a change in someone else’s life.”

Outside of their jobs, both Hor and Kagwanja find additional avenues for their professional knowledge and skills. Hor recently helped found the Cambodian Economic Association (CEA). Like its American counterpart, the fledgling CEA is an independent professional organization whose activities include lectures, working dinners with government officials and donor agencies, and publishing on a wide range of topics.

A topic of particular interest to Hor is Cambodia’s land policy. “In Cambodia, the rich and powerful own most land,” he says. “Many poor people are landless.” Hor wants to contribute to the discussion on land reform policies and help poor people have greater access to land.

Kagwanja plans to volunteer as a teacher at the University in Addis Ababa and to be part of theses and dissertation committees. In this way, she says, “I can contribute a lot more to young minds, while I keep abreast of current issues, research, and new methodologies in my field.”

In her work with UNECA and in her relationships with her family, Kagwanja exemplifies the national motto of Kenya, *harambee*, which translates as “all pull together.” Through her work with UNECA she hopes to change the lives of young African women. She is thankful that she has accomplished a lot of what she hoped to achieve.

“I am glad to be working for the African continent and making a decent living while doing so,” she said. “I am blessed to be able to extend what I have to others.” She calls herself the education, medical, and life insurance of her family and community. Kagwanja helps her sister’s children through school by paying their fees both in the U.S. and in Kenya. She is also the guardian of a young teenager in Ethiopia.

“These are some of the duties that we as Africans gladly do every day,” says Kagwanja.

Family responsibility is central to the life of Hor as well. In addition to supporting his ailing parents, who are now in their 70s, he helps his brother and his family, including paying for his brother’s children’s education. His long-term plans, however, might allow him to be of even greater help, he said. He hopes someday to return to the U.S. to get his MBA from a top business school, before starting his own management consulting firm in Cambodia.
It was a scene from the perfect Kentucky tourism postcard—balmy, clear skies, a canopied stage framed by the Jessie Preston Draper Memorial Hall, and thousands of chairs for graduates and guests fanning out onto the lawn. A bower of trees provided shaded seating and opportunities for families to stretch out on blankets with their little ones. The 133rd Berea College commencement was one of those events that, years from now, folks will look at the pictures and remember “the good old days.” It was that good.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu
Inspires Graduates to Be Fellow Workers with God

By Bridget Carroll

"God says, smiling, “Class of 2005, you are masterpieces in the making. I need you. Without you, I will fail. I need you to be my partners, and then this world will be transformed, this world will be transfigured so there will be laughter and joy. There will be compassion and caring. There will be sharing and all of us will know... we belong. All of us, all held in an incredible embrace.”
May 22, 2005 was a day for “all,” as Archbishop Desmond Tutu was to declare, over and over, in his inspiring call for those graduating to become the potent hands and workers for God. It was a perfect Kentucky day for all who wanted to be there, for all who were proud of their graduate, for all who felt blessed to be sharing the same picture-perfect setting on the College’s Quadrangle lawn.

It was a day that could not have been better had hamburgers floated down from heaven, to paraphrase Archbishop Tutu. On this perfect day more than 5,000 guests filled the Quadrangle, all desiring to attend a rare visit and address given by Archbishop Tutu. This perfect day arrived through the Herculean efforts of the College to move graduation ceremonies outdoors to accommodate the largest number of family, friends, students, visitors, and other attendees to any graduation in recent history. The joy of the graduates and their proud parents, friends, and relatives was palpable, boisterous, and fitting. And it was glorious.

Marking this occasion, an honorary doctor of humane letters was conferred upon Eula Hall, the visionary founder of the Mud Creek Clinic in Grethel, KY. It is the only clinic in Floyd County that provides health care based on one’s ability to pay. Hall also has spearheaded a donated clothing closet, a dental clinic, a food pantry that feeds more than 100 families each month, and the Mud Creek Water District, which provides potable water to a community where 90 percent of wells were designated as contaminated 30 years ago. Eula Hall grew up in Pike County and now educates others to become social activists.

Before his address, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 1984 Nobel Peace Prize winner and fearless international leader in the crusade for the eradication of apartheid in South Africa, received an honorary doctorate from Berea College presented by President Larry Shinn. Following the end of apartheid, South African president Nelson Mandela appointed Tutu chairman of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that investigated the human rights violations that occurred under apartheid. This
committee helped lead South Africa away from bloodshed and toward, as Tutu said, “the lively democracy” that it is today. In 1998, Tutu and his wife, Leah, formed the Desmond Tutu Peace Centre, which will be built in Cape Town’s central business district.

Today, Archbishop Tutu continues to speak out forcefully on matters of peace and justice in the world. In his commencement address, Archbishop Tutu implored the new graduates to be fellow workers with God, saying:

God says, smiling, “Class of 2005, you are masterpieces in the making. I need you. Without you, I will fail. I need you to be my partners, and then this world will be transformed. This world will be transfigured so there will be laughter and joy. There will be compassion and caring. There will be sharing and all of us will know . . . we belong. All of us, all held in an incredible embrace.”

Tutu’s remarks created a perfect bookend to an earlier baccalaureate message from Bishop Stacy Sauls. The sixth bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Lexington urged graduates to value love over knowledge. “Knowledge must yield to Love,” he said, “because it is faith that saves you . . . and faith is not about what you know. It is about how much you love.” Sauls recently established the St. Laurence mission church in downtown Lexington to serve the poor. His other church-related service projects include founding a clinic, an alternative school, and a food bank.

Following Tutu’s address, President Shinn shook the hands of 240 graduates who crossed the stage to receive degrees. Eight seniors who will complete their degrees at summer’s end also were recognized.

Berea’s highest faculty honor, the Seabury Award, was bestowed upon Dr. Amer Lahamer, professor and chair of the Department of Physics. Since 1989, Dr. Lahamer has shown a classroom “fascination with gizmos and passion for physics” that underlies his diverse research interests, which includes Mössbauer spectroscopy, X-ray diffraction, endohedral metallofullerenes, chirality in nature, and small fullerene clusters. (Those who have attended Dr. Lahamer’s physics classes will actually know what this array of phrases means.)

Dr. Fred de Rosset, ’72, professor of Spanish, received the Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for community service. Since coming to Berea College as a student in the late 1960s, Dr. de Rosset remains active in the Kentucky Institute for International Studies. He created a program in which Kentucky police officers gain Spanish language skills while spending up to five weeks in Mexico immersed in its culture and language. Through his service learning project, he has improved understanding of and service for increasing Hispanic populations.

The Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising was given to Dr. Patricia Isaacs, professor and chair of the Department of Economics and Business. Dr. Isaacs serves as the chair-elect for the College’s Executive Council.

Jana L. Vandegrift, a graduating biology major received the Hilda Welch Wood Achievement Award. Vandegrift maintained a perfect 4.0 grade point average. Jeffrey Hurt, a triple major in German, psychology, and Spanish, received the T.J. Wood Achievement Award and a Fulbright Fellowship.

Adding to the festivities was the first carillon concert to take place at an outdoor Berea College commencement. Just prior to the ceremonies, John Courter, college organist and carillon master, played over an hour of music on the 56-bell carillon located in Draper Tower.

Tutu’s stirring commencement address

“All, all, all belong in God’s family,” Archbishop Tutu told the Berea graduates. “And God says, ‘Will you help me realize my dream?’”

Desmond Tutu and Eula Hall, recipients of honorary awards at Berea College commencement, enjoyed each other’s company at a dinner with President Shinn and the trustees. In his commencement address, Tutu said, “God looks; God sees a Eula Hall and God smiles that she has become such a wonderful fellow worker with God.”

Student Awards: Profiles of Excellence

Hilda Welch Wood Achievement Award: Jana L. Vandegrift

During the summer that Jana Vandegrift worked in a children’s hospital, she experienced dozens of teaching moments that touched and strengthened her. As she sat with children who had lived most of their lives in hospitals, or with families who had spent many sleepless nights facing the unknown, she wondered whether under those circumstances she would have had that kind of courage.

On May 22, 2005, the biology major from Fairmont, WV graduated from Berea with a perfect 4.0 GPA. Jana received the Hilda Welch Wood Achievement Award for outstanding female student and was accepted into medical school at Johns Hopkins University, where she will study pediatric medicine. “Service is important. That’s why I chose medicine,” says Jana. “I want to help people.”

She received numerous awards and scholarships to further her education, including the Seabury Award, the John Bangson Biological Award for outstanding scholarship and leadership, the Doris and Harold Rosenbaum Scholarship, and the Norman C. and Rose B. Wheeler Scholarship for the advanced study of medicine. In addition, Jana is one of a handful of Berea graduates ever to receive a national Phi Kappa Phi fellowship to pay her first year’s expenses in medical school.

Jana credits Dr. Sarah Blank, her biology professor, with igniting her interest in medicine. “Dr. Blank was so passionate about biology that she got me excited about it.” Blank was Jana’s advisor for four years and helped her research the right fit in a medical school.

The aspiring pediatrician is happy about the awards and opportunities for the future, even as she maintains her commitment to her Appalachian roots. “I would like to serve where I’m needed,” she said. “It’s not about the money, but about helping patients.”

Eventually, Jana hopes to establish a West Virginia practice similar to the busy rural public health clinic where she interned with a physician during a short term semester. Jana’s mentor at the clinic quickly initiated her into the many facets of her chosen field by assigning her a patient to meet and follow. She interviewed other patients prior to examination, visited hospice patients in their homes, and researched Crohn’s Disease before presenting a paper on the subject to a group of physicians.

“I enjoyed my leadership role at the clinic, although there was a time when I would not have had the confidence to do so,” Jana says.

During her labor positions with CELTS (Center for Excellence in Learning through Service), Jana tutored at-risk middle school students and discovered she was good at working with children. Jana continued her CELTS labor through her senior year, assuming more responsibility each year. “CELTS taught me how to step up and accept leadership roles. I never thought of myself as a leader, but through my student labor position I learned to develop leadership skills I never knew I had.”

Last year she ran a program for 20 teens mentored by six Berea College students. The college students worked with the teens on core subjects, service projects, and recreational activities. “By interacting with others who cared about them, these students received attention many lacked from their families. We helped them to feel they could succeed in their own lives.”

Betty Hibler, labor supervisor and associate director of CELTS, praised Jana’s commitment to and caring attitude toward young people in the community. “Throughout her years at Berea College, Jana has been a steady, constant presence in their lives.”

Jana recalls one particular mentoring relationship with a teen who was expelled from the two area high schools and sent to alternative school. After working many weeks with Jana, he brought his final report card to show her, knowing how proud she would be of him. As a high school graduate, he now attends a technical school.

Remembering her student, Jana smiles. “Knowing I touched that teen’s life is so fulfilling and rewarding to me.”
T. J. Wood Achievement Award: **Jeffrey W. Hurt**

When Jeffrey W. Hurt walked toward the stage to receive the T.J. Wood Achievement Award from President Shinn during commencement, his grin was almost as wide as the college lawn. He nodded and waved exuberantly to the family, friends, and faculty who had supported him emotionally and spiritually through his college journey. During an earlier interview he paraphrased Isaac Newton’s humble insight. “Those who stand out do so because they stand on the shoulders of others.”

A first-generation college graduate from Louisville, KY, Jeff also received a number of the College’s most prestigious awards. A member of the Mortar Board, Phi Kappa Phi, and Delta Phi Alpha honor societies, he also won the Seabury Award for academic scholarship and community leadership, the Mary Macauley Smith Memorial Award in humanities, and the Louise Veltin Memorial Award for distinguished citizenship.

In addition to holding a 3.99 GPA and attaining the T.J. Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a male student, Jeff accepted a Fulbright scholarship that allows him to study and travel internationally to further his interest in serving the international community through the gift of education. With a triple German, Spanish, and psychology major, Jeff’s dream is to “work in an international, multicultural setting.” This fall he begins making this dream a reality, teaching English to elementary and teen students in Leibnitz, Austria.

After a year of teaching, Jeff plans to continue studying abroad. “By learning about and understanding as many cultures as possible, I’ll have the capacity to share what I’ve learned with students or others in some multicultural context.”

On his first trip abroad for a freshman short term class, Jeff was bitten by the travel bug in Mexico. He and other students lived with local families, attended an exchange school, and traveled by public transportation. At the exchange school, English speakers learned Spanish, and Spanish speakers learned English. This experience became a turning point for Jeff, shining a light on his inherent talent for learning languages and sparking his interest in other cultures. Because of Berea’s study abroad initiative, he was able to follow these interests by traveling to Spain, Germany, and Austria.

With CELTS he combined his labor position with his passion for languages to help younger local students. As a Berea Buddy, he supervised 50 student volunteers, pairing younger students with role models to help reduce the achievement gap. Betty Hibler, associate director of CELTS and Jeff’s labor supervisor, said, “Jeff’s wide-ranging talents and interest in people make him a leader who does not seek out traditional leadership roles, but who contributes as a powerful role model in a positive way to whatever setting he is in.”

In addition to studying, traveling, and working, Jeff volunteers for such service projects as food drives, the food bank, mentoring, and helping out as a translator in the Hispanic community. During spring break in New Orleans and Charleston, SC, he installed a new ceiling and repaired a thrift store for Habitat for Humanity. To assure that his service projects happen, he raises funds for projects with spaghetti dinners. After all of this, Jeff amazingly focuses not on what he has given, but on all that he has received.

“I made friendships and memories I will always value,” he said.

After graduation and before travel, Jeff plans to return to work at Jackson County’s Camp Andrew Jackson, a job his roommate talked him into accepting last summer. Sponsored by CAP (Christian Appalachian Project), the camp offers canoeing, hiking, workshops, and other fun activities for economically disadvantaged children. He couldn’t wait to return to the camp.

“The camp experience stretched my heart further than I ever imagined,” said Jeff.
Berea Kicks Off “Year of the Ecovillage” with Dedication Ceremony

Years of planning and months of construction culminated in May when the Ecovillage officially opened. The dedication ceremonies kicked off the “Year of the Ecovillage,” a series of events that will showcase the College’s new environmentally and socially sustainable residential and learning complex.

As the Berea College Bluegrass Ensemble played lively traditional tunes, college trustees, donors, community leaders, students, residents, and neighbors gathered on the courtyard lawn. After an invocation by Jeff Pool, campus minister, and a welcome by Elizabeth Culbreth, Chair of the Board of Trustees, the children and teachers of the Child Development Laboratory (CDL) sang a song of gratitude written for the occasion.

Mayor Steve Connelly, '74, an alumnus of both the College and former Berea preschool, emphasized the strong historical connection between the city and College. President Larry Shinn stressed the central educational mission of the Ecovillage by unveiling a plaque to honor Boyd and Gaynell Fowler, for whom the Child Development Laboratory is named. “My excitement about what you’re seeing here stems from these young children and their families,” Shinn said. “That is what this village is about. It’s not about the buildings and the ecology alone; it’s about the families that will be affected.”

Before a crowd of nearly 200, Sharonda Griffin, '05, praised the Ecovillage as a rare opportunity. Living at the complex, she said, made it easier to be a good parent while being a full-time student. “The Ecovillage gives families the opportunity to be who they are first—a family,” she said. “I hope that this village can continue to be a blessing for all families to come.”

Following the dedication, guests touring the Ecovillage viewed one of the townhouse-style apartments, the Commons, the Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) house, the Boyd and Gaynell Fowler Child Development Laboratory, the Ecological Machine, and the information kiosk. In the SENS house guests watched “Living Upstream,” a video work-in-progress about Berea’s efforts to become a more sustainable campus. The video is being produced in partnership with the Kentucky Division of Energy and the U.S. Department of Energy program Rebuild America.

Located across from the main campus, the Ecovillage illustrates energy-reducing and environmentally friendly building techniques. As Kentucky’s only ecological village, it continues the College’s long-standing commitment to good stewardship of natural, human, and material resources.

While meeting extremely high ecological, social, and educational performance standards, the Ecovillage addresses the well-being and education of its residents and offers a model of sustainable living. Its “green” design elements and technologies help reduce energy and water use. These include passive solar gain, photovoltaic panels, super insulation, low-flow showerheads, composting and dual flush toilets, and rooftop capture of rainwater. Performance goals for the Ecovillage include reducing energy and water use by 75 percent, generating electricity on-site from renewable sources, treating its wastewater and storm water to swimmable quality, and recycling at least 50 percent of its solid waste.

Twenty-eight student families reside in the eco-friendly townhouses, as well as in four refurbished units. A colorfully tiled information kiosk displays the straw bale building technology. A nearby greenhouse houses an Ecological Machine that uses natural processes to treat all Ecovillage wastewater for non-potable uses. Watersaving landscaping includes fruit trees and vegetable gardens. A Commons House located on the eastern edge is used for laundry facilities, mailboxes, kitchen, dining, study, and meeting space.

The CDL on the western edge near the park offers high-quality inclusive child care and enhanced early education experiences for children of college students, staff, and faculty. Enrollment is also offered to children of the community on a space available basis. Four students live and work in the SENS house, a demonstration and teaching facility.

As part of the “Year of the Ecovillage” celebration, Berea will host conferences, lectures, and workshops for individuals and groups, including architects, building contractors, early childhood and environmental educators, and others interested in sustainable living.
In the last ten years, Berea College’s sustainability efforts have mushroomed from a fledgling student-led recycling program to a campus-wide initiative encompassing new constructions, renovations, campus operations, and the curriculum. In an effort to understand the relationship between humans and the natural world, Berea began a journey that became a model for environmental responsibility and sustainability in Appalachia.

The College’s most notable project is the Ecovillage, an innovative student residence that demonstrates energy-reducing and environmentally friendly building techniques and practices. Having raised more than $10 million to build the Ecovillage as part of the Extending Berea’s Legacy Comprehensive Campaign, Berea still needs more than $226,000 to complete the SENS house and Ecological Machine. Although the Ecovillage is the most visible of the college’s sustainability efforts, Berea has adopted low-energy standards for all campus buildings.

Of the more than a dozen buildings renovated with stringent ecological standards, one of the most dramatic was the renovation of Lincoln Hall. When part of the building collapsed in 2001, Berea transformed disaster into opportunity with a renovation that incorporated Lincoln Hall’s historic elements with eco-friendly components.

Features include energy-efficient lighting; recycled carpet, roof tiles, and other materials; and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems designed to use no ozone-depleting materials. Lincoln Hall recently became the first building in Kentucky to be certified by Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

The depth of Berea’s commitment to sustainability is perhaps most evident in its everyday operations, where students and employees learn, work, and live in an increasingly sustainable community. Berea’s Energy Master Plan, which guides new construction and conservation efforts, includes a goal of reducing campus energy use 45 percent by 2015. The following examples are both practical and inspired:
- The coal-fired heat plant is being replaced with a more efficient natural gas plant.
- Printing Services purchases 100 percent recycled paper for campus printers and copy machines.
- All residence halls are equipped with low-flow showerheads and recycling bins.
- Berea College Crafts shreds departmental waste paper to use as packing material.
- The sawdust generated from Woodcraft is used as mulch around campus, and scrap wood is distributed to local residents for firewood kindling.
- Dining services composes about 200 pounds of food waste per day for use on campus gardens.
- Facilities Management has replaced 14 gas-operated vehicles with 13 electric carts and one converted electric truck.
- Berea’s Portable Computers project, a campaign initiative that puts a laptop computer in the hands of every student, resulted in a 50 percent decrease in student use of paper in the first year of the program.

Students have been a driving force in finding opportunities to become a more sustainable campus. Students helped establish the recycling program in 1991, played a key role in designing the Ecovillage, led campus and community sustainability workshops, and will shape the future with the tools they acquire here at Berea.

HEAL (Helping Earth and Learning), a student-run environmental and social justice organization, promotes campus recycling, the purchase of eco-friendly materials on campus, and biking instead of driving. La Vida Nueva is an all-female “theme house” whose members vow to live plainly—and encourage others to do so—by sharing meals, buying local and organic foods, and hosting community workshops and discussion groups.

Berea’s formal curriculum reinforces its commitment to plain living with a Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) program and minor, established in 1999. SENS is a multidisciplinary program that explores the challenges of creating a sustainable society that can meet its current needs without destroying the ecological, social, and economic systems required to meet future needs.

The Compton Foundation contributed to Berea’s formal sustainability curriculum by funding a Chair in Ecological Design, appointed in 2001, and Compton Internships that give students hands-on experience in ecological design.

Berea must raise $400,000, however, in order to reach its SENS program goal for the Extending Berea’s Legacy Campaign. A total of $4 million is needed to fully fund this program. In addition, an integrated, campus-wide sustainability education program will help the entire College community reap the full benefits
Having grown up amid the concrete and bustle of Louisville and Birmingham, Patricia Feeney was drawn to Berea College’s green expanses and commitment to simple living. In the next four years she learned how that commitment would change her—and how she would change Berea.

Tricia, a biology major, spent much of her time at Berea working with HEAL (Helping Earth and Learning), a campus social and environmental justice organization. She worked to get Fair Trade Coffee in the campus café, promote women’s health, and research ethical investing.

In August 2002, as a Greenpeace Youth Delegate at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in South Africa, she and her peers made a personal commitment to reducing energy consumption on their own college campuses. At Berea, Tricia started Ten by Ten, an initiative to encourage the College to obtain 10 percent of its energy use from clean, renewable resources by 2010.

Ten by Ten organized educational events to raise awareness of the impact of relying on fossil fuel energy. Student representatives met with College administrators on the Campus Environmental Policy Committee, passed a student resolution supporting Ten by Ten, and taught others to use less energy in residence halls.

“We built a student movement,” she said. “Since we have many students from Appalachia, if they see this as a common struggle, it will help the region at the same time.”

Besides South Africa, Tricia traveled to Mexico and Australia and across the United States to study sustainability issues and work with the USDA, the Greenpeace Clean Energy Campaign, and the Coalition for Just and Sustainable Communities.

Two summers ago, she lived in the SENS house in the Ecovillage and researched Berea’s Ecological Machine, the wastewater treatment system that naturally treats sewage and industrial waste to reusable quality using helpful bacteria, plants, snails, and fish that thrive by breaking down and digesting organic pollutants. Tricia monitored and evaluated the Ecological Machine’s performance by collecting samples and analyzing the effluent. She conducted an aquaculture experiment in which she raised tilapia and aquatic plants, and then the algae growth cleaned the tank’s water.

In her free time, she studied Portuguese to prepare for a semester in Brazil, where she studied environmental biology and social justice with the School for International Training. After returning to Berea, she shared what she learned with the community.

“I am constantly amazed at my situation,” she said. “I am convinced that my good fortune has come not by chance, but that I am meant to continue searching for my place in the world where I can give myself to my community.”

<table>
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</tbody>
</table>
With more than 17,000 members around the world, the Berea College Office of Alumni Relations 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 2005-06 run through May, so don’t miss out! For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1.800.457.9846, or e-mail jennifer_mills@berea.edu.

Distinguished Alumni

Recently, two Berea College alumni were inducted into the University of Kentucky Association Hall of Distinguished Alumni. Fewer than one percent of UK alumni receive this award.

Dr. G. Samuel Hurst, ’47, a retired research professor from Knoxville earned a physics degree from Berea College, a master’s degree from UK (1948), and a doctoral degree in physics from the University of Tennessee (1959). A corporate research fellow from Oak Ridge National Laboratory, where his 33-year career involved research on instrumentation, atomic physics, gaseous electronics, and laser physics, including original work on Resonance Ionization Spectroscopy (RIS), Hurst holds over 20 patents. Among his inventions is the widely-used computer touch screen.

He was a research professor in the Institute of Molecular Biophysics at Florida State University, a professor at the Ford Foundation, the first director of the Institute of Resonance Ionization Spectroscopy at the University of Tennessee, and a physics professor at the University of Kentucky.

Robert Gene Lawson, ’60, a faculty member of the UK College of Law for over 40 years, served as dean from 1971-73 and 1982-88. Lawson is best known among Kentucky’s lawyers and judges as the principal author of the state’s improved laws on crime and punishment and the principal drafter of the Kentucky Rules of Evidence. His book on Kentucky evidence law, used by all state judges and most trial lawyers, has played a role in more than 300 case decisions by the Kentucky Court of Appeals. A second book by Lawson, Beverly Hills: The Anatomy of a Nightclub Fire, provides an historical account of the fire that killed 165 people near Covington in 1977.

In 2001 he received the Acorn Award, which is given annually by the Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education. He also received the Kentucky Bar Center Award for outstanding service to the bar and the citizens of Kentucky. This is the Kentucky Bar Association’s highest service award.

Tell Us Your Story!

Berea College Magazine and the Office of Alumni Relations want to hear from you! During our Sesquicentennial Year, alumni may submit their thoughts, story ideas, and memories to BCM. Themes for 2005-06: Fall—Labor and Learning & International Commitment. Winter—Interracial & Coeducational Commitment. Spring—Christian Commitment & Sustainability. Summer—Appalachia and Service Learning. Go to www.berea.edu/alumni and send us your story!
Even rain didn’t stop Berea College and community from welcoming nearly 400 alumni, family, and friends for Summer Reunion 2005. Luncheons, lectures, and tours kept all busy, although there was plenty of time for hugging, picnicking, and reminiscing.

A Service of Remembrance and Recognition honored those who made an impact on the lives of the alumni. Before rolling video cameras, several alumni recounted favorite college memories during “Share Your Oral History” activities in the Public Relations Department. Alumni strolled through open buildings on a self-guided tour of campus and the newly built Ecovillage.

During the alumni banquet, three 1965 graduates received awards. Distinguished Alumnus Awards were given to infectious diseases expert Dr. Douglas M. Watts and Dr. Brad Crain, an English scholar and veteran higher education administrator. Retiring staff writer Rebecca Nelson received the Rod C. Bussey Award of Special Merit for service to the College.

Crain is the retired provost and vice president for academic affairs at Lincoln Memorial University (LMU) in Tennessee and former Berea English instructor. He was most recently distinguished visiting professor of humanities at the College of the Ozarks.

Associate director for scientific administration for the Center for Biodefense and Emerging Infectious Diseases at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Watts is helping to establish a major research facility and biocontainment laboratory. Nelson, recently retired from College Relations, served the College for 33 years in a variety of capacities, including being head resident of Talcott Hall from 1972-96.

For photo identification see the Alumni webpage at www.berea.edu/alumni
Summer Reunion 2005

For photo identification see the Alumni webpage at www.berea.edu/alumni
Date:_______________
Name (as you want it to appear on name tag):_______________________________________________________
Spouse/Guest:__________________________________________________________________________________
Address:______________________ City:_______________________ State:________ Zip:_________
Home Phone:________________________ Work Phone:_________________________

# of Tickets

Awards Reception, 11/4   NO CHARGE. Ticket required. Meet this year’s award recipients at a special Friday evening reception in Baird Lounge.
Distinguished Alumnus Award: Dr. George Lester, ’54
Outstanding Young Alumnus Awards: Jeanette Humphrey Byrd, ’89 and Dr. Paul White, ’89
Rod C. Bussey Award of Special Merit: Susan Curtis Vaughn, ’80

Sesquicentennial Carnival, 11/5   NO CHARGE. Ticket required. Celebrate 150 years of learning, labor, and service on the Quad. Fun, food, and games in a carnival-like setting! *** This special Saturday afternoon event will take the place of regular class luncheons and ALL alumni are invited to join in the fun. Hospitality rooms will be set up for each special reunion class (1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, & 2005) and class photos will be taken at a designated time/location.

Cheer on the Mountaineers! 11/5   Come show your Berea spirit Saturday evening and watch the women’s basketball team take on the University of Virginia-Wise while the men take on Milligan College. Each ticket will admit you to both games. Tickets are limited and sold on a first-come, first-serve basis.

ADULTS $6.00 each
CHILDREN (5 and under) $3.00 each

Young Alumni Pre-game Bash, 11/5   If you graduated within the last 10 years, you won’t want to miss this pre-game cook-out, complete with music and plenty of opportunities to socialize and network. Ticket price includes dinner, admission to both basketball games, and a $2 donation to the Berea Fund.

ADULTS $15.00 each
CHILDREN (5 and under) $7.50 each

I’m coming, but do not need tickets.
Please list my name on the attendee list and pre-print a name tag for me.

PAY BY CREDIT CARD: Charge my VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or Diners Club card
Contribution to Berea Fund $________________________
Ticket Costs $________________________
TOTAL CHARGE AMOUNT $________________________

Card:________________________________  Exp. Date_________
Card Number__________________________________________
Signature of Card Holder_________________________________

PAY BY CHECK: (Payable to Berea College)
Contribution to Berea Fund $________________________
Ticket Costs $________________________
TOTAL CHECK AMOUNT $________________________

*** For a pre-printed name tag & registration packet, early reservations must be made by OCTOBER 28, 2005. Registration packets will not be mailed, but will be available for pick-up at the Alumni Building beginning November 3rd. Tickets can also be purchased at the registration desk during Homecoming. Tickets purchased after October 28th are non-refundable.

Registration forms must be postmarked by October 28th and sent to:
Berea College Office of Alumni Relations
CPO 2203
Berea, KY 40404

or FAX to (859) 985-3178, or call 1-866-804-0591. For a complete Homecoming schedule, check back on our website: www.berea.edu/alumni, or give us a call at 1-866-804-0591.
1928
Oliver Sturgill Walker currently resides in Green Valley, AZ and enjoys "rock hounding" in his spare time.

1933
Clara Strong Phillips is a very active volunteer at Dietert Senior Center in Kerrville, TX where she lives.

1935
Axson Rodes Ceperley celebrated her 90th birthday last summer.

1936
Elmer Alexander, a retired educator, and his wife, Opal, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in June. They lead an active life on their farm in Webbville, KY.

1937
Eugene Taulbee of Logan, OH was recently inducted into the Educators Hall of Fame by the Logan Education Association.

1938
Carolyn Asher Fromuth, A' Cx'38, and husband, Karl, recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have relocated to Hollywood, FL.

Dr. Claude Scroggs, a retired director of economic research at Southern States, was named the Outstanding Friend of Agriculture by the Friends of the Industry of Agriculture in Richmond, VA.

1942
Robert Larew Allison and her husband, Alvin, recently welcomed the birth of their granddaughter, Amanda. The Allisons reside in Charleston, WV.

Ruth Cornett Ferros of Laredo, TX published her 450-page autobiography, including memorabilia last June.

Ralph Hammond, Cx’42, of Arab, AL, has published three new books of poetry. He is the only poet in Alabama history to have four books honored as the Alabama Poetry Book of the Year.

1945
Eulene Sherman Lytle, a retired teacher, and husband, David, enjoy traveling in their motor home. They live in Syracuse, NY and have traveled through the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Guindola Johnson Roberts, Cx’45, resides in Richmond, VA with her husband, Delbert. She is the Eastern Zone Vice-President of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Virginia.

1946
Patricia Allen-Morgan’s husband, Mervyn, passed away September 2, 2004. Patricia resides in Burlington, VT.

1947
Gene Barber celebrated his 80th birthday in March. A retired physicist and engineer, he has been producing newsletters as a volunteer since 1996. His most recent newsletter promotes issues of peace and justice. He and wife, Angela, live in Hilo, HI.

Barbara Goddard of Sun City, AZ was recently featured in an article in the Daily News-St. The article discussed how Berea influenced Barbara to a lifetime of service.

Bette Jo Geveden Whetstone, A’ Cx’47 of Greenville, NC hosted a mini-reunion in Louisville, KY with classmates Faye Kegley Morrell from Sacramento, CA and Jeane Easterling Grove from Louisville, KY. They had not seen each other since graduation.

1949
Woody Bass, son of Leonil and Ouida Hughes Bass, passed away on December 9, 2004 in Wilmington, DE. An industrial chemist, he graduated from the University of North Carolina with a PhD in chemistry.

Mary Alice Neal of Colorado Springs, CO is the administrative assistant to the president of Magnisight, Inc.

Franklin and Betty Parker, ’50, have both written extensively on the topic of education. A complete listing of their work can be found at http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/peabody/about/alum0.html#P.

1950
Charles Flowers resides in San Diego, CA with his wife, Karen O’Connor. They have five children and fourteen grandchildren. Charles is a speaker and writer.

Eugene Howard and wife, Emily, went to Belgium in December 2004 to celebrate the 60th reunion of the WWII Battle of the Bulge. Gene was honored as one of the army veterans who took part in the battle.

Earl Warrick and Jean Watson Warrick, ’49, reside in Cherryville, NC. Earl is retired from operating Shelby Nursery and Garden Center.

1951
Mary Seals Arnett’s husband, William Arnett, passed away in January 2004. They were married in Danforth Chapel in January 1951.

Odel Miller of Morgantown, WV was recently re-elected President of the Palatines to America, Research in German Speaking Ancestry Genealogical Society.

John Ramsay celebrated his 75th birthday at the Russell Acton Folk Center in Berea on April 9. He teaches English as a second language in Adult Education and Literacy, is Artistic Director for Dance Discovery, which teaches dance to home-school groups, and is active in his local AARP chapter.

John Whitaker, former associate dean of students in the agricultural and biological sciences department at the University of California-Davis, was honored for his contributions towards undergraduate student development by having a campus building named after him.

1952
Anna Evans Davidson is retired and living in Johnson City, TN with her husband, Robert. They have one son and three grandchildren.

Jim Fish is "almost" retired and living in Spokane, WA.

Both Vinson A. Watts and Patricia Ascough Watts, ’65, have retired from administrative positions at Morehead State University in Kentucky and continue to volunteer in their community.

1953
Kenneth Valentine and his wife, Glenna Smith Valentine, ’55, of Butler, KY recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.
1954
Dempsey Bailey and wife Kathleen Gibson Bailey, ’57, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary. They are both retired from Lancaster City Schools in Lancaster, OH.

1955
Dr. Robert K. Dorton of St. Louis, MO celebrated his 45th reunion from Vanderbilt University Medical School.

1956
Tommy Clark and his wife, Dorothy, recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. Tommy plays trombone for two bands. The Clarks reside in Charlotteville, VA and have traveled to 35 countries.

Thad Mills of Bellevue, WA works full-time as a corporate jet captain, having twice retired—once in 1980 from the U.S. Navy as captain, and again in 2001 as Chief Pilot for Bill and Melinda Gates.

Wayne Spiggle and Elizabeth Betty Sutton Spiggle, ’65, reside in Keyser, WV. Wayne was appointed to the Governor’s Pharmaceutical Cost Control Council and has been elected for a six-year term to the Mineral County Commission. Betty works as a youth counselor in her local church.

Ruby Belle Waldrop Thyne resides in Woodstock, GA. Her husband, James Thyne, died in January 2004.

1957
Carson Robinson and Betty Brown Robinson, ’60, are retired and living in Missoula, MT.

1958
Roy Walters, Jr. and Janath Casto Walters, Cx ’53, celebrated their 53rd wedding anniversary in December 2004. They reside in Morganton, NC.

1960
Thomas Comer, Ed. ’60, retired in January from the VA Medical Center where he had worked since 1974. He and wife Barbara reside in Ashland, KY. They plan to develop their farm near Lake Cumberland.

Sylvia Barnett Johnson of Detroit, MI is a participant in the Black Women’s Health Study. The research will contribute to the study of sarcoïdosis, an autoimmune condition that disproportionately affects African-Americans.

1961
Vance Davis and Liz Tester Davis, ’60, have retired. They enjoy taking cultural tours and reside in Mountain Home, TN.

1963
Dr. Helen Bessent Byrd retired from the faculty of the School of Education, Special Education Department, at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, VA in July 2004. She enrolled full-time in the Master of Divinity Program at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

1964
Joyce Thompson Bergen and her family visited Rome and Venice last July. They reside in Hilton Head, SC.

1965
David Reber retired from teaching in June 2004. He resides in Milwaukee, WI with his wife, Polly.

Patsy Dills Tracy, Cx ’65, recently moved to Murray, KY.

Gary Vaught retired from the City of Cincinnati Recreation Department after 50 years.

1966
Kenneth Crase and Mary Sue Keith Crase, Cx ’67, reside in North Augusta, SC. Ken is technical advisor to Radiological Protection Services of Westinghouse Savannah River Company. Sue is a retired real estate appraiser.

Beula Adkins Fraley has retired as children’s librarian from the Paris-Bourbon County Library in Kentucky after 17 years. Her contributions to storytelling and children were recently featured in the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Lewis Plummer retired from the Commonwealth of Virginia in September 2004 with 36 years of credited service. He resides in Naronas, VA.

Robert Vinson has just finished 11 years on State Council for California Teachers Association, and nine years on CTAs political action committee, six of which he served as a state officer. He teaches learning disabled students at Alvarado Middle School in Union City, CA.

Kathy Timmermann Vinson, Cx ’65, recently retired from a computer company.

1967

Dennis Wooten retired after 32 years of service with Perry County Schools, serving the last 14 as principal of Buckhorn Elementary and High School. He has been the Perry County Sheriff since 2003. He resides in Buckhorn, KY.

1968
Sara Kennedy, daughter of Eddie Kennedy and Norma Proctor Kennedy, ’80, passed away March 25, 2005 from rhabdomyosarcoma, a rare form of childhood cancer. As part of her legacy, Sara and her parents created an ongoing fund, SaraCare, at UK Children’s Hospital and Kentucky Clinic to provide services for young patients undergoing chemotherapy and their families. The Kennedys have been an active part of the Berea community for many years, Norma having worked in the Alumni Association office and Eddie having taught in the Berea Community School. Contributions to SaraCare may be sent to People’s Bank, 419 Chestnut St., Berea, KY 40403.

1969
Catherine Stewart Johnson and John Kent Johnson have retired and reside in Lexington, KY.

Linda Crawford Kenney retired in June after 33 years of teaching. Husband James Kenney, Cx ’68, manages a Milton Propane plant in Rochelle, IL where the couple lives.

Ron Kiviniemi and Ann Harris Kiviniemi reside in Pisgah Forest, NC. Ann retired in June 2004 after 33 years of teaching kindergarten and first grade. Ron retired in June 2005 after 35 years in public education, the last four as principal of Pisgah Forest Elementary.

Barry Wood is in his 34th year of teaching at Peters Township High School in McMurray, PA. He also teaches theater for Waynesburg College. He was recently nominated to participate in the 2005 Edinburgh Festival in Scotland. Last summer he hosted/directed a large production which celebrated 30 years of musicals in Washington Park by the Washington Community Theater. He currently resides in Houston, PA.

1970
Dr. Judith Sherrow Conde teaches Spanish at Lexington Community College in Lexington, KY and at Western Hills High School in Frankfort.

Ronald Dockery retired from the public school system after 31 years of service. Currently he is a biology instructor at Morehead State University and supervises biology student teachers. He and wife Charlotte reside in Winterville, KY.

Annette Hobbs of Gambrells, MD retired after 32 years of public service. Most recently she was Assistant Chief Information Officer for Information Technology at Ft. Mead, MD. She worked for the Army for over 22 years.

1971
Wayne Byrd was appointed Executive Director of the Office of Field Operations for Kentucky Department of Revenue. He has been with the Revenue department for 31 years. He and wife, Linda, reside in Harrodsburg, KY.

Dennis Tolliver was promoted to Quality Director Worldwide, CVA at Arvin Meritor, Inc. He lives in Florence, KY and operates from the Troy, MI headquarters of Arvin Meritor. Evelyn Combs Toller, ’70, retired in 2000.
1972  Barbara Baker of Berea, KY recently received the Lucy Harrth Smith-Atwood S. Wilson Award for Civil and Human Rights in Education.

1973  Virginia Hubbard Underwood was named Chief of Staff and Executive Director of Policy Compliance and Governance at Eastern Kentucky University.

1974  Esfandiar Lohrasbpour served on the Math Department Career Panel during Homecoming 2004. He is General Partner at Invesco Private Capital and resides in Saratoga, CA.

1977  Sandra Hope Manual Davis is completing her PhD in social work and teaching at Cumberland College. Her dissertation focuses on Kentucky foster care census.

1978  Lynne Blankenship Caldwell was recently accepted into the Doctor of Ministry Program at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. She currently resides in Highpoint, NC.

1979  Dr. Michael Banks resides in Buffalo, NY and is a research and development chemist with DuPont.

Mary Marsh Garcia is a professor in learning support at Middle Georgia College. She and husband, Peter, have three children and reside in Cochran, GA.

1983  Mark Bradshaw was named West Virginia’s 2004 Outstanding Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. He was also recognized by the National Insurance Crime Bureau for leading the state in recovering stolen vehicles during 2003 and 2004. He resides in Wayne, WV.

Eric Crowden is a training specialist at the Urgent Care Clinic of Eastern Carolina Internal Medicine in New Bern, NC.

Andrew L. Wooten is vice president and managing director of Health Science Ventures for Arizona Technology Enterprises in Tempe. Andrew lives in Chandler, AZ with his wife and three daughters.

1984  Mike Adkins has joined the law firm of Klutz, Reamer, Hayes, Randolph & Adkins in Salisbury, NC.

Sherry Morris works for the University of Kentucky registrar’s office doing web publishing and technical support. Sister Terry Morris works at the University of Kentucky in the Accounts Payable Department.

Suzanne DuVal chairs the English department at Madison High School in Marshall, NC.

1985 20th Homecoming  November 4–6, 2005

The Berea College Office of Alumni Relations enjoys hearing from Bereans all over the U.S. and the world. To report your news or send us photos, please check the submission guidelines on the web at: www.berea.edu/alumni/forms/submitclassnotesguidelines.asp. Or you may call 1.800.457.9846, or e-mail mae_suramek@berea.edu. Please include the class year and name used while attending Berea. Please let us know what’s going on with you.

1986  Lisa Banks will complete her Master of Architectural Engineering degree in April 2006. She resides in Huntsville, TN.

Birth: A son, Iain Charles, to Samantha Earp and David McMullen. Iain is the grandson of Charles Earp, ’65 and Dorothy Buckland Kickasola, F ’59, ’64, and is the nephew of Maggie Earp Cowie, ’92.

Dr. Donna Birkenhauer Fick and husband, Jim, recently moved to Boalsburg, PA where they both work for Pennsylvania State University. Donna was promoted to tenure associate professor of nursing and medicine in the Department of Psychiatry. She is researching delirium and medication use.

Alan Ramsey is the assistant interlibrary loan technician at West Liberty State College in West Liberty, WV.

1987  Karen Wallis Flanders resides in Fairfax, VA with husband, Scott, and daughters, Ginny, Abigail, and Lilk.

Dat and Cindy Lao Hat, Cx’87, live and work in Shanghai, China along with their three sons.

Birth: A son, Evan Blake, to Ivan and Lisa Burkett Lambert on January 12. They reside in West Jefferson, NC.

Annette Neff Turner is a financial reporting specialist for Toyota Manufacturing, North America. She resides in Moores Hill, IN with her husband, Doug.

1988  Michelle Layne Allen resides in Dunedin, FL with her husband, Jeff, and daughter, Erika. The Allens started an executive research firm, Edgewater Executive Search. Next year Michelle will chair the Membership Development, Education and Training committee involved with the Clearwater Dunedin Junior League.

Ruth Baldridge is program director of the Knoxville Family Medicine Residency Program.

Monica Sandfoss Niemi stays at home with her three sons, Aiden, Adison, and Anders.

1989

Dr. James Short, current adjunct professor of psychology, was recognized as a teacher who values and encourages diversity as part of the University of Cincinnati’s “Future of Learning: Addressing Issues of Diversity” Project.

1990

Tara Bellando is publishing a children’s book, Welcome to Cricket Hollow. The book is being illustrated by her sister-in-law, Jennifer Bellando.

Seeking Stories

Tammy Horn, author of Bees in America, invites readers to send stories for a second book on bees and the lives of women throughout history.

Valerie Salley’s essay, “Inventory,” was recently published in an anthology of Kentucky women writers entitled I to E: Life Writings by Kentucky Feminists.

1992

David Boling completed his master's thesis titled, “Dust storm transport of pathogenic microbes to Viking Scandinavia” at Oregon State University. He works in Alaska as a legislative secretary.

Freddie Brown, president of the YMCA’s Black Achievers program, was featured in an article in the Lexington Herald-Leader, entitled “A Measure of Progress,” covering a conversation with six leaders from Lexington’s black community reflecting on its changes.


Andrew Stanberry and his wife, Cleo Scheib Stanberry, ’95, reside in Cambridge, OH with their two children. Andrew teaches ceramics and Cleo is a psychiatric nurse.

Rebecca Thacker Summers recently moved to Kingsport, TN. She and her husband, Mark, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary.

1993

Keith Goodin works in Carrolton at the Dow Corning plant. Wife, Jennifer Graham Goodin, ’94, is the new director of student life/advising at Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana, Madison campus. They reside in Bedford, KY.

Adam Howard is associate dean of faculty and associate professor of education at Antioch College. He resides in Yellow Springs, OH.

Birth: A daughter, Eden Elise Lowry, to Tanya Lawson Lowry and Fred Calloway Lowry, Jr. Eden has one sister, Oliva Lowry, age 3. The family lives in Hamilton, OH.

Birth: A daughter, Samantha Lee Melton, to Juanita Melton and Roger Melton on April 19, 2004. They reside in Clinton, TN.

Erin White Thomas accepted a position with Birmingham-Southern College as their fiscal compliance manager. She lives in Pinson, AL with her husband and their two sons.

1994

Mona Bayyuk joined the Leon and Sylvia Panetta Institute for Public Policy as an AmeriCorps VISTA member in February 2000 and taught at a local school. In July 2001 she returned to the Panetta Institute as a staff member, where she worked until March 2005. She now resides in Spokane, WA.

Married: Annette Cable and Aidan Broadbridge at Union Church on December 22, 2003. The couple lives in Lanark, Scotland. Annette is employed with South Lanarkshire Schools.

Mike McClellan, ’97 and Kelly Stone McClellan of Lexington, KY have a two-year-old son. Kelly is a social worker at the University of Kentucky and Mike works as a resident director.

Ashley Morgan was named associate director of Habitat for Humanity in Madison County. He resides in Berea, KY.


Andrew Stanberry and his wife, Cleo Scheib Stanberry, ’95, reside in Cambridge, OH with their two children. Andrew teaches ceramics and Cleo is a psychiatric nurse.

Rebecca Thacker Summers recently moved to Kingsport, TN. She and her husband, Mark, celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary.

1995

Crysta Reis Clark is a special education teacher and resides in Stafford, VA with her daughter, Emily.

Sean Hennessey’s art work was featured in the exhibit “Theatrical Artisans: Props and Crafts from DC Theatre” at the Montpelier Cultural Arts Center in Laurel, MD.

Misty Lay, Cs’95 is a school psychologist for the Bullitt County school system and resides in Mount Washington, KY.

Isaak Ray works for the Masonic Homes of Kentucky–Louisville. A licensed long-term care administrator, he received his master’s in health administration from the University of Kentucky.

Amy Brenda Sadler teaches at Rockcastle Middle School and returned with her husband, Robert, and their two children to live in Berea.

Stephanie Schilling Scarpine is a school psychologist in the Nelson County Schools. She resides in Louisville, KY with her husband, Jason.

1996

Benjamin Drummond teaches American History and World Civilization and coaches soccer at Todd Central High School in Elkin, KY. He received his master’s at Western Kentucky University in 2000 and an administration degree from Austin Peay State University in 2003. He lives in Elkin, KY with his wife, Angela, and their two daughters.

Birth: A daughter, Zoe Elizabeth, to Robyn Ferguson Lowe and Jeff Lowe on November 11, 2004. They reside in Woodville, TX.

2006 Elizabeth D. Gilbert Fellowship in Library Science

This $3,500 fellowship is awarded in May to a senior or graduate of Berea College intending to pursue graduate study in preparation for professional librarianship. This needs-based graduate study fellowship is given as a memorial to Elizabeth D. Gilbert, Berea College Librarian, 1944-73.

Criteria for the award are quality of overall academic performance at Berea College, quality of performance in the College Labor Program, evidence of a career commitment to librarianship or related professions, evidence of financial need, and, if appropriate, quality of academic performance in a graduate program:

To receive an application, send a letter of inquiry to:

Gilbert Fellowship Committee
c/o Anne Chase, Director of Library Services
CPO Library
Hutchins Library
Berea, KY 40404

Final application must be received by February 10, 2006.

For further fellowship information, email anne_chase@berea.edu or call 859.985.3266.

Mike Robinson is the vice president of academic and student services at Argosy University. He was married in May 2004 and resides in Glen Ellyn, IL.

Michael Thiel is the training and marketing manager for the Johnson Motors Group in Western, WI. He and his wife, Lisa, reside in Elk Mound, WI.

1997

Greg Goebel and Victoria Tozzi Goebel currently reside in Columbia, SC. Greg is finishing his MA in New Testament at Columbia International University and working in the campus library. Victoria is beginning her graduate studies in clinical counseling at CIU.

Carrie Hoisington resides in Lakewood, OH. Her first book, Tales of Extraordinary Beauty, was released in spring 2005.

Bradley Pace and Katie Elder, have a son and reside in Urbana, IL where Brad is pursuing his PhD in philosophy at the University of Illinois. The family will move to Sewanee, TN while Brad works on his Masters of Divinity at the School of Theology; University of the South and finishes his dissertation.
Verlena Simms is pursuing a master's degree in Library and Information Science at Dominican University in River Forest, IL.

1998

Married: Tina Gehrke and Gabriele Cabarrus in February 2004. They reside in Bellingham, WA.

Ann Hazels received a fellowship to Jingdezhen Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute in the People's Republic of China.

Susana Luzuriaga works as an institutional researcher at Kentucky Wesleyan College in Owensboro, KY.

Bonnie Bush Underwood married in June 2004 and works in Huntington, WV as a psychiatric nurse.

1999

Michael Arnhold resides in Chesterhill, OH and manages a Bob Evans Restaurant.

Rhonda Jenkins Burkhart works with the Kentucky State Police and resides in Ashland, KY with her husband, Jason.

Melissa Dillenbeck substitute teaches while working on a master's degree in education from Trinity International University.

Jason Jones is general manager for Sodexo Independent School Services at John Paul II High School. He resides in Goodlettsville, TN.

Birth: A son, Ethan Tyler, to Terry Starks and Marlena Rutledge Starks, '01, on July 25, 2004. They reside in Providence, KY where Terry teaches high school physical education and health and coaches cross country. Marlena is a social worker for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

2000 5th HOMECOMING  November 4–6, 2005

Birth: A daughter, Carrie Nichole, to Julia Miller Athman in June, 2004. The family lives in Glendale, MT.

Jana Marie Bailey and husband Steven reside in Richmond, KY.

Mark Castle teaches physical education and resides in Big Stone Gap, VA with his wife, Nicole Robinette.

2001

Shawn Adkins is working on a master’s in science and management at Indiana Wesleyan University while also working as a Commercial Lines Underwriter for The Cincinnati Financial Corporation.

Ellicie Holly Chick teaches special education at Silver Creek Elementary in Berea, KY.

Allison George is assistant youth coordinator at the Paul Sawyer Public Library in Frankfort, KY.

David Harrison resides in Columbus, OH and is an international financial auditor for Ashland, Inc.

Mary Ruth Isaacs is a child and family interventionist at Cumberland River Comprehensive Care Center in Mckee, KY. She received her master's in family studies and early childhood education from the University of Kentucky.

Rachel Eugenia Collins Szerletich is completing her master's in reading education at the University of Louisville. She resides in Louisville, KY with her husband, Joseph.

Michelle Van Vleet graduated from Northern Kentucky University’s MBA program in May 2005.

2002

Kara Lyn Beisner works for Progressive Behavior System as a psycho-social rehabilitation yherapist. She resides in Rupert, ID.

Married: Dale Ponder and Melissa Sparlin on March 26, 2005. Alumni in the wedding party included Hannah Logan Ponder, Denis Ponder, ‘03, and Eamonn Fitzgerlad, ‘03. The couple resides in Yuma, AR.

2003

Amy Ingram McKecean is a design engineer at NACCO. She resides in Berea, KY with her husband, Vince.

Married: Shalamar Montieth Sandifer and Willie Lee Sandifer Jr. on June 19, 2004 in Danforth Chapel. Shalamar works as administrative assistant for Campus Life at Berea College.

Stephanie Smith received her master's degree in library and information science in December 2004. She works at the Vanderbilt University Medical Center in the Eskind Biomedical Library.

2004

Grace Brutto is an adolescent achievement program coordinator with Georgia Community Support and Solutions. She resides in Gainesville, GA with her husband, Deepak Goel.

Michael Freeman is a hall director at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Stephanie Lancaster recently spoke at a Safe Place Convention in Louisville, KY. Safe Place provides help and safety for youth at risk of abuse, neglect, or family problems. Stephanie lives in Columbus, OH.

Birth: A daughter, Kaitlyn Grace, to David McNamara and wife Kelly. They reside in Berea, KY.

Julia Orlowski lives in Huntington, WV where she attends Marshall University’s graduate school of business.

Thaminda Rumanayake and his wife, Kristina Juodyte, are living in Rochester, NY and pursuing graduate studies.

ShaQuita Smith works in the accounting division for the Kroger Company in Hermitage, TN.

Mark Woolwine is pursuing a master’s in student affairs and works in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs as a study abroad advisor at the University of Louisville.

2005 1st HOMECOMING  November 4–6, 2005

Birth: A daughter, Celeste, to Eamonn Fitzgerald, ‘01, and wife Kelly. They reside in Berea, KY.

Kristina Parker, '42, and wife Kelly. They reside in Berea, KY.

Julia Orlowski lives in Huntington, WV where she attends Marshall University’s graduate school of business.

Martha Rumanayake and his wife, Kristina Juodyte, are living in Rochester, NY and pursuing graduate studies.

Safisa Smith works in the accounting division for the Kroger Company in Hermitage, TN.

Mark Woolwine is pursuing a master’s in student affairs and works in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs as a study abroad advisor at the University of Louisville.

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 Alumni Relations know by sending a copy of the obituary, by calling 1.800.457.9846, or e-mailing macㅆsuramek@berea.edu. Please include the person’s class year, or connection to Berea, and the date and place of death.

1920s

Bertha Mershon West, ’26, of Henderson, KY died April 6, 2005. She was a retired teacher.

Dorothy Howard, Cx’29, is deceased.

Russell Measell, Cx’29, is deceased.

1930s

Dr. Cullen Owens, ’31, of Albuquerque, NM died March 24, 2005. He was a UNM speech professor for 21 years and retired in 1973.

Andrew E. Wooten, ’35, of, Minden, WV died February 5, 2005.

Kathryn Whitaker Hutton, ’36, of Alexandria, KY died March 18, 2005.

Boyd Arnett, Cx’37, of Silver Springs, MD is deceased.

Elise Qualls Norton, ’37, of Aiken, SC died February 9, 2005.

Donna Adams Smith, Cx’38, is deceased.


1940s

Col. Clyde Bensey, ’40, of Harriman, TN died December 13, 2003. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Lieutenant Colonel after serving in both World War II and the Korean War. He is survived by brother, Frank Bensey, Cx’44, Navy V-12.

Hazel Parker Haynes, ’40, of Louisville, KY died January 11. She was a former writer for The Courier-Journal.

Ruth Siler McCracken, ’40, of Ann Arbor, MI died January 27, 2004. She is survived by husband, Paul McCracken.


Margaret Washburn, ’41, of Marietta, GA died January 18, 2005. She was a media specialist at Russell Elementary School in Marietta until her retirement in 1983. She is survived by brother William Washburn, Cx’38.

Ivul Dobby Parker, ’42, of Louisville, KY died January 24, 2004. She was married to the late George Parker, a former professor at Berea College and chairman of the Philosophy and Religion Department.

Verla Scott, ’42, of Mount Vernon, KY passed away January 18. She was preceded in death by her husband, Ted A. Scott, ’42.

Ruth Kazee Allender, ’43, of Bowling Green, KY died February 3. She is survived by her husband, William Allender, ’43.

Ethel Strong Edwards, Cx’45, of Asheville, NC died January 15. She is survived by sister Clara Strong Phillips, ’33.

Donn Farris, ’43, of Durham, NC died March 5, 2005. He served as librarian of the Divinity School Library.
at Duke University from 1950-92. He is survived by wife
Joyce Lockhart Harris, ’48.

Jean Gray Masengill, Cx’43, died March 18, 2005. She was a retired teacher after 20 years at Dobyns-Bennett High School in Kingsport, TN.

Robert Brickey, Cx’44, of Columbus, OH died March 14, 2005. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corp and a certified public accountant. He is survived by wife, Jane Brickey.

Margaret Troutman Saul, Cx’44, of Centralia, IL died December 7, 2004. She is survived by husband, James Saul, Cx’44.

Dr. William Voris, Cx’44, Navy V-12, of Peoria, AZ died January 6, 2005. He is survived by wife, Mavis Voris.

Glen Charles, Cx’45, Navy V-12, of Crestwood, KY died November 27, 2003.

Loretta Head, ’45, of Berea, KY died January 14, 2005. She was a dietian for many years.

Dr. Polly Ann Burnley Proctor, ’45, is deceased.

Victor Creighton Vybiral, Cx’45, of Bush, LA died April 20, 2005.

Lillian Davis Drew, ’46, a former high school teacher living in Vevay, IN died December 20, 2004.


Kathryn Abels Stratton, ’47, a former professor at Indiana University of PA, died in July 2004.

Monroe Hall, ’48, a retired teacher and Navy veteran of World War II from Louisville, KY died October 6, 2004. He is survived by his wife, Henrietta Hall.


Charlene Mullins Stone, ’49, a former kindergarten teacher of Ashville, NC died April 5, 2005.

1950s

Dr. Barbara Noel Bevard, ’50, of Lexington, KY died March 27, 2005. She was a Doctor of Chiropractic.


Jane Sherrill, ’51, of Beattyville, KY died February 5. She was a teacher in the Lee County school system for 40 years.


Joyce Gilliam Byrd, ’53, of Carrollton, GA died in November 2005. She is survived by husband, Dr. Dexter Byrd, ’55.

Homer “Hop” Porter, Jr., ’53, of West Govina, CA died January 20, 2005. He was a special agent for the FBI until his retirement in 1979, whereupon he worked for the Motion Picture Association and the Recording Industry Association of America. He was the father of Berea College former Provost Dave Porter.

Dr. Delil Stallard, ’55, of Maggie Valley, NC died March 25, 2005. He practiced dentistry until his retirement in December 2005.

Delno Ausmus, ’59, of Knoxville, TN died February 20, 2005. He was a physicist in the Nuclear Science Division of Oak Ridge National Laboratory until his retirement in November 2000.

Jimmy Rader, ’59, of Dallas, TX died April 2, 2005.

1960s

Thomas Guthrie, Cx’62, of Delton, MI died February 19, 2005. Executive Director of Michigan Integrated Food and Farming Systems, he was also the Chairman of both the Barry Conservation District and the Rural Partners of Michigan.


Philip Rollins, ’64, of Florence, KY is deceased. He was former principal at Conner Middle School in Hebron, KY.

Judith Ann Wilson, Cx’65, of Liberty, KY is deceased.

Betty Payne Bisbee, ’67, of Lubbock, TX died April 15, 2005.

1980s

Keven Hollars, ’88, a registered nurse at Frazier Rehab in Louisville, KY died March 1, 2005.

1990s


2000s

Ora Lee Hill, Hon. ’00, of Birmingham, AL died in February. She is survived by husband, Ernest Hill, ’56.

Faculty/Staff/Trustees

Jim Bergman, former Baptist Student Union Director at Berea College, passed away December 14, 2004. He also held administrative positions at Alice Lloyd College under five presidents. He is survived by his wife, Betty.

Rev. Raymond Eugene Gibson, ’44, of Shelbyville, KY died at his home in Hillsborough Center, NH on June 19. He was a Berea College trustee from 1965-83. A Congregational Church minister in New Hampshire, New York, and Rhode Island, he earned his bachelor of divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. in philosophy of religion from Columbia University. An active participant in civil rights, he participated in the march to Montgomery with the Rev. Martin Luther King. An artist and craftsman, he founded Gibson Pewter at Hillsborough Center in 1966. He leaves a sister, Susan Cochran Gibson, ’45; four sons, Cyrus Gibson of Portsmouth, RI, Mark Gibson of Hubbardston, NH, Christopher Gibson of Sebastopol, CA, and Jonathan Gibson of Hillsborough, NH; a daughter, Lauren Chapin of Brooklyn, NY; two brothers, Wallace Gibson Jr. of Richmond, MI, and Roy J. Gibson of Louisville, KY.

Mary Lou Parsons, who retired after 25 years as a statistician in the Berea College Development Office, passed away May 2, 2005. She is survived by her son, John David Parsons of Frankfort, KY and a sister, Irene Parks, of Berea.

Alfred Jehu Stokely, longtime Berea College trustee, died on July 10 at his home in Whitestown, IN. In addition to serving on the College Board of Trustees from 1962-85, he was retired President and Chairman of the Board of Stokely Van Camp, a company founded by his father. One of his more notable accomplishments was bringing the then-unknown product, Gatorade, under the Stokely label in 1967. During his long and distinguished business career, he served on many corporate boards, including Indiana Bell, Bank One, American United Life, and the National Association of Manufacturers. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jane Tarkington Stokely; four children, Alfred J. Stokely, Jr., Randolph H. Stokely, Barbara E. Stokely, and Martha T. Stokely Parson; two step-children, Linda T. Danner and William B. Danner; and a sister, Janie Stokely Weinberg of Chattanooga, TN.
Berea College Sesquicentennial
150 Years of Learning, Labor, and Service

There are few moments in history when a group of people stand up for their beliefs in spite of overwhelming opposition. Berea College’s founding was one of those moments. In 1855, the notion of racial and gender equality was unthinkable to many. Berea was forged out of the Kentucky wilderness and given life by the Rev. John Gregg Fee on the principle “God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth.” This scriptural foundation has shaped Berea’s culture and programs for the past 150 years, and it is this remarkable mission and history we celebrate as we observe the College’s Sesquicentennial.

Alumni and friends are invited to campus to participate in a wide variety of activities and events that have been planned for Berea’s Sesquicentennial year. Many of them are listed at right. Whether it is Berea’s inclusive Christian identity, interracial education, equality of women and men from all nations, plain and sustainable living, or service to the Appalachian region, every Sesquicentennial event has been designed to commemorate one or more aspects of the Great Commitments, which is the most concise expression of the College’s character and mission.

Berea’s distinctive mission for the past 150 years has been to seek out promising low-income people from Appalachia and provide them a full-tuition scholarship and a quality liberal arts education. That mission continues. The Sesquicentennial also provides an opportunity to celebrate the impact Berea students have made in their areas of influence. During this upcoming academic year, each issue of the Berea College Magazine will highlight various aspects of the Great Commitments. Articles will feature examples of how the College and our students, have made their mark in the world by bringing the Great Commitments to life. Join us in celebrating Berea’s 150 years of learning, labor, and service for all peoples of the earth.

This autumn Berea College kicks-off the Sesquicentennial Celebration, observing its 150th anniversary. Among the many events and activities that reflect the “Being” of Berea’s illustrious past and celebrate the “Becoming” of its promising future are:

Make History!
Be a Part of the Relay . . .

The Berea College Sesquicentennial Great Commitments Relay will take place March 31 through May 12, 2006, along 1,855 miles of Appalachia and the South. Alumni and friends will relay a copy of the Great Commitments in a walk, run, bus, bike, and wheelchair goodwill tour in recognition of Berea’s 150 years of learning, labor, and service. Along the way, we will create opportunities for reconciliation, make new friends for Berea, thank longtime friends for their support, and honor Berea’s history, as alumni show their pride in their alma mater. Our goal in the communities we visit is to raise awareness about Berea’s history and contributions to the world.

If you would like more information about the relay or would like to participate, please contact Will Jones, Director of the Berea Fund, at 859.985.3055 or via email at william_jones@berea.edu.

This autumn Berea College kicks-off the Sesquicentennial Celebration, observing its 150th anniversary. Among the many events and activities that reflect the “Being” of Berea’s illustrious past and celebrate the “Becoming” of its promising future are:

Publications:

- Books by Shannon Wilson, College Archivist, and Dr. Lee Morris, former director of the Campus Christian Center, and English professor John Balin

College-Wide:

- October 13. Founders Day celebrates the College founder and honors the family and descendants of John G. Fee.
- October 19. Mountain Day retains classic activities and old-time contests
- November 4-6. Homecoming!

Black Cultural Center:

- Affrilachian poet student Stewart Stone, ’07, shares commemorative poetry
- Guided tour of Historic Black Berea from 1866 to the present

Campus Christian Center:

- Lectures, discussions and workshops by Dr. Michelle Tooley, Lilly Professor of Religion

CELTs and the International Center:

- October 3. Tukule Tusome, luncheon series in the Commons, Woods-Penniman
- October 27. The Dirk Powell Band (bluegrass music) 8 p.m. convocation.

Exhibits:

- September 15- October 31. “Berea College Theatre in the Tabernacle” on display in Jelkyl

Hutchins Library:

- November 4-6. Faculty scholarship displays and events
- October- December. Photo exhibit of campus and forest by Alan Mills, Technology & Industrial Arts, and Tinsley Carter, ’05
- “From Wagons to the Web,” historical panels that document the library’s work

Music:

- Mountain Day evening concert, Wind Ensemble and Jazz Ensemble, Commons, Woods-Penniman Hall.
- Celebration of Traditional Music sponsored by the Appalachian Center Oct. 28-30. Friday night performance; Saturday all day workshops, symposium, square dance, and concert by festival musicians; Sunday morning: Gospel Sing at Union Church

Please check Berea’s website (www.berea.edu) for a complete list of sesquicentennial activities.
Throughout its history, the College has provided a learning community for people of all ages and at all stages of their lives.

From its earliest years, Berea has taught students how to labor with their hands as well as their heads.

Since 1855, learning, labor, and service have been cornerstones of a Berea College education. Berea’s faculty, staff, and students continue to uphold the ethic of service, in keeping with the College’s commitment to encourage concern for the welfare of others.

PLEASE MAKE A GIFT TODAY

By phone— 1.800.457.9846

Online at www.berea.edu/friendsdonors

Or send a check or credit card information to:

Berea College Berea Fund

CPO 2216

Berea, KY 40404

The Berea Fund helps to meet uncovered costs in areas such as: full-tuition scholarships for all 1,500 students, student wages for Berea’s labor program, faculty and staff salaries, and campus maintenance and renovation.
President Larry D. Shinn congratulates Kaleb Hall, age 3, and his mother, Shelly Smith, who graduated with a B.S. in nursing. Joe Bagnoli, ’88, Associate Provost for Enrollment Management, looks on.