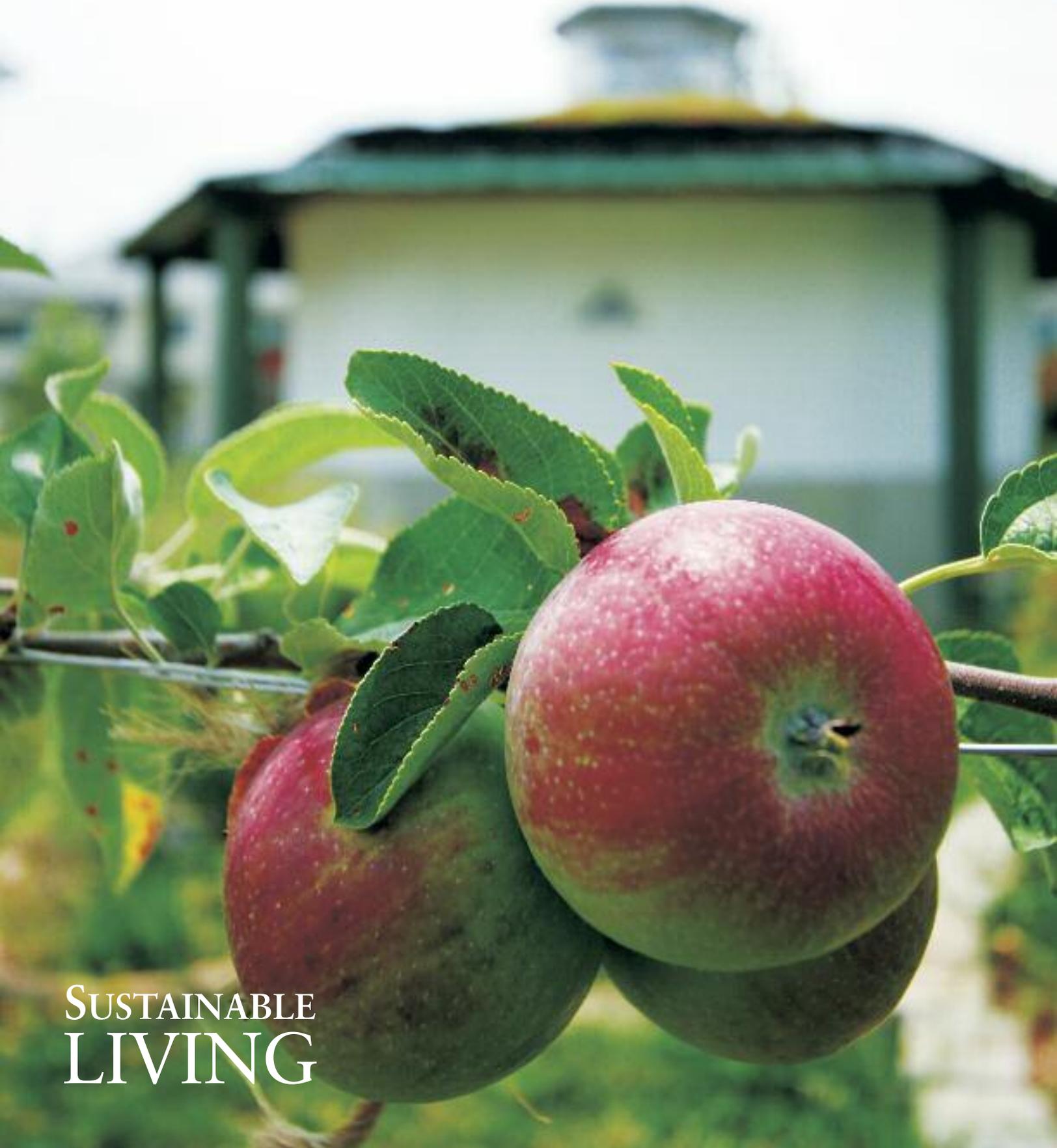


BEREA

COLLEGE MAGAZINE WINTER 2009



SUSTAINABLE
LIVING



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Front Cover: Espaliered apple trees grow abundant fruit in the Ecovillage in front of the Natural Building Shelter (photo by Damian Buttle, '11)
Inside Front Cover: Berea College Farm, Leah Cushman, '07

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BEREA COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Heaven is under our feet as well as over our heads.

— Henry David Thoreau



Normandi Ellis

When I traveled some years ago to Machu Picchu, Peru, I spoke with a Quechua Indian about what it was like to live beside the River Urubamba in what seemed to me to be almost the Garden of Eden. While I savored a fresh avocado and lime, I lamented the way American coastlines had been built up and the way my mountains, in particular, had been lost to dams, paved roads, strip mines, and clear-cut forests. He said, "That's the difference between your culture and mine. In America, you keep building up, trying to re-invent your paradise. Here, we still live in the Garden of Eden. We were never kicked out."

This conversation stays with me because my trip to the sacred mountains opened my eyes to the radically different ways that others view their relationship to the world. Now that world has changed. In the last decade, the planet seems to have grown ever smaller—bringing us closer together, but overpopulation and resource consumption are creating human and planetary distress. Sustainability is both environmental and behavioral, and it's not a fad. Conservation and consideration of the common good have been going on for a long time.

In this issue, President Shinn shares an essay that puts into perspective Berea's sustainability efforts over the last 15 years. Other features explore the evolving ways that the College faculty, staff, and alumni are making a difference in Berea and around the country—even around the globe—through its thoughtful research, development, analysis, and implementation of green practices. We take a look at our resources—the farm, the forest, and the College community. From the oil we put in our tractors to the oil we use to send students abroad, from the trees in our forest to the FSC-certified paper we print on, from the greens on our tables to the green energy in our communities, we hope to provide our readers with a snapshot of the sustainability efforts at Berea.

We had a hard winter with broken ice-covered trees, mangled power lines, and even wind-twisted bleachers in the baseball field before winter was said and done. The College is working to recycle those trees and restore the campus to balance. Spring is not far away, and I am already dreaming of the beautiful creek that surrounds my farm with its island of bluebells. That is my heaven on earth.

Normandi Ellis



100% Recyclable
10% Post-Consumer Waste

Around Campus



O'Neill Arnold, '85

Stephen B. Bright

Human Rights Lawyer Addresses Midyear Grads

Distinguished human rights lawyer Stephen B. Bright, a University of Kentucky graduate and Danville, Kentucky native, addressed 68 Berea College midyear graduates, along with faculty, families, and friends who filled Phelps Stokes Chapel on December 7. Bright also received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the College president, Larry Shinn.

Bright is president of the Southern Center for Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia. The Center provides legal representation to individuals facing the death penalty and to prisoners challenging inhumane conditions throughout the South. The Center also works to provide better access to lawyers for poor people accused of crimes. Bright was director of the Center from 1982 to 2005 before becoming its president in 2006. He also is the J. Skelly Wright Fellow and Visiting Lecturer in Law at Yale Law School and Visiting Lecturer in Law at Georgetown University Law Center.

He praised Berea College for its history of equality and its stance on civil liberties and social justice issues. Bright also spoke highly of Dr. Robert Lawson, '60, who was his law professor at the University of Kentucky. "I took every class he taught," Bright said, "whether I'd already received a grade in the class under someone else or not."

In 1998, Bright was awarded the American Bar Association's prestigious Thurgood Marshall Award for his service to indigent and underrepresented populations.

Berea Garners Science Technology Research Grant

Berea College was one of eight universities awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund research in innovative materials and devices. Focusing on nano-, bio-, and cyber-technology, the research initiative at Berea is being led by physicist Amer Lahamer and is part of Kentucky's strategy to develop a plan to increase scientific expertise.

A portion of this national \$17.5 million award from the NSF Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) will provide Berea with funding to supply needed technology for research.

Under Dr. Lahamer, research students will explore advancement possibilities in many fields, including nano (extremely small) materials with an emphasis on the interactions between cells at the molecular, intracellular, and intercellular levels.

Previous research in these fundamental areas of technology has already led to inventions such as pacemakers, transistors, and automobile computers. At Berea, the NSF-EPSCoR grant will fuel the potential for similar breakthrough research.



Damian Butts, '11

Dr. Amer Lahamer

Berea Marks Its 35th Celebration of Traditional Music

The 35th Celebration of Traditional Music at Berea College brought together regional musicians with national appeal to commemorate the traditional musical heritage of Appalachia.

Performances and workshops included David Holt and the Lightning Bolts from North Carolina; Gloria Belle and Mike Long from Nashville, Tennessee; Paul D. Smith from Hardy, Kentucky; Karly Higgins and Sarah Wood from Morehead, Kentucky; and Virgil Bowlin and Peerless Mountain, from Williamsburg, Kentucky. Dance callers, cloggers, and flatfoot dancers made appearances, including Lou Maiuri from West Virginia. Cecilia Conway from Appalachian State University offered a symposium on "African Roots of the Mountain Banjo and Fiddle."

The festival was sponsored by the Berea College Appalachian Center with support from the Kentucky Arts Council.



Michelle Towles, '10

David Holt and the Lightning Bolts performed a children's concert at Woods-Penniman Commons.

Once Again, “Thy Chimes Shall Ring for Us Each Day”

When students returned to campus in January, they heard the Phelps Stokes Chimes ringing again after being silenced for a time. New strikers had been installed on the Meneely Chimestand bells. The daily Chimes begin at 7 a.m. and end at 11 p.m. on weekdays, and begin at 9 a.m. on weekends. The Meneely Chimes, originally installed in 1917, were a gift from Olivia Phelps Stokes to honor President William Goodell Frost, who envisioned the students being edified by hearing hymn tunes and patriotic songs.

The Class of 1948 initiated the restoration of the Chimes through fundraising. While the original Chimes could not be restored, John Courter found a 1927 Meneely Chimestand, which Berea purchased in 2007 for one-tenth of the cost of a replica. Eddie Broadhead, assistant professor of general studies and a fine craftsman, restored, refinished, and reassembled the Chimestand.

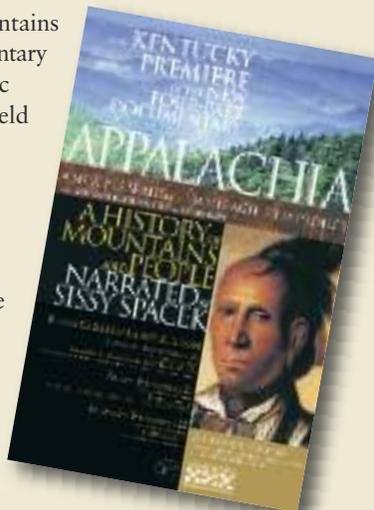


Dominic Buttle '11

The Meneely Chimestand bells in Phelps Stokes ring on the quarter hour.

BC Hosts PBS Documentary Premiere

“Appalachia: A History of Mountains and People,” a four-part documentary that airs nationally on the Public Broadcasting System in April, held its Kentucky premiere at Berea College in November. The film (www.appalachiafilm.org) explores the intersection of the natural and human histories of the region. Film producer Jamie Ross and director Ross Spears presented a convocation program in which they showed excerpts and discussed the role of the film as social commentary.



David R. Luman

Archbishop Elias Chacour Brings a Message of Peace from the Middle East

During his week-long visit, Archbishop Elias Chacour addressed the Berea College campus, alumni, and the larger community as part of a college-wide symposium held in November. He delivered a message of unity, calling out to his audience as “brothers and sisters and not ladies and gentlemen.”

In a special presentation, President Larry Shinn awarded Archbishop Chacour the President’s Medallion. After the award presentation, the Black Music Ensemble sang “When Will They Learn to Love One Another?” The song prefaced Chacour’s message calling for “Hope Beyond Despair.” His remarks addressed the 60-year-old Palestinian-Jewish conflict in Israel, about which Chacour wrote his book *Blood Brothers*. The book was part of the “Campus Reads Together” program prior to the archbishop’s visit.

Elias Chacour was born November 29, 1939 in the village of Biram in Upper Galilee in Arab Palestine to a Palestinian Christian family, members of the Melkite Catholic Church, an Eastern Byzantine Church in communion with Rome. At the age of eight, Chacour was forced to abandon his home after occupation by Jewish soldiers and became a refugee without entitlement to a country. The Promised Land became a land of unfulfilled promises, but Chacour was determined. He set forth to contribute to the betterment of his brothers and sisters through charitable works that included founding the first public library for Arabic children, developing summer camps for refugee children, and building the Mars Educational Institutions for young people regardless of ethnicity, religion, or economic status, thereby bringing reconciliation in a land of strife.

“I am not here to beg for your money, but I beg of your friendship with Jews.” He encouraged the audience to do away with pre-judgments and urged unity for peace in diversity. “Peace needs no contemplation,” he said. “Get up and do the dirty work.”

Heard Around Campus

The way we treat other people speaks the loudest about our religion and relationship with God.

—Rev. Dr. Michael Bell
First African-American president
of the Baptist General Convention of Texas
Convocation September 2008



Rev. Dr. Michael Bell

As a product of globalization, the world is now one big village.

—Marco Antonio Velázquez Navarrete
Sociologist from the Mexican
Network for Action on Free Trade
Convocation October 2008



Marco Antonio Velázquez Navarrete and
Todd Miller

Feminism does not simply mean promoting a few women to join the men's club.

—Rosemary Radford Ruether, feminist theologian
Convocation October 2008



Rosemary Radford Ruether

These are tough times, and the next U.S. president, whoever he is, will need a lot of intelligence and imagination to get us out of them.

Former U.S. Senator George McGovern
Convocation October 2008

The day you have no more questions, then you have a serious problem.

— Archbishop Elias Chacour
“Hope Beyond Despair” College-wide Symposium
November 2008

We want to build a mosaic of human beings, and mosaics are not built out of the same color of stone. It's always a pity when one is missing. We need every one to become a human community.

— Archbishop Elias Chacour
“Unity within Diversity: Is It Possible in the Holy Land?”
Convocation November 2008



George McGovern

The true treasure of the (Appalachian) area is not its coal or gas; it is the story we can offer to the rest of the nation.

—Jamie Ross, film producer & writer
“Appalachia: Where Is It and
Why Haven't We Been There?”
Convocation November 2008



Archbishop Elias Chacour

Berea Students Shine in Academic Competitions

More than 20 students earned special recognition in three academic competitions this fall. At the Berea College Speech and Debate Tournament in October, the Berea College team placed third in the overall debate sweepstakes. At the Smoky Mountain Debate Invitational in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, Kate Ruddle, '10, and Ken Johnson, '09, were debate champions, finessing 26 other teams.

Students who participated and received awards in the 2008 Kentucky Academy of Science Undergraduate Research Competition, held at the University of Kentucky in November, included Steve Hammond, '10, Jonathan Sands, '09, Jessica Price, '09, Dikshya Bastakoty, '10, Oliver Munyaradzi, '10, Aaron Fidler, '09, Megan Jackson, '09, Ashley Crockett, '09, Matthew Bailey, '09, Ramesh Adhikari, '11, Megan Rodgers, '10, Kaleigh McCoy, '10, Jessica Carnes, '10, Amy Jones, '10, Elizabeth Fleming, '10, Alaina Faust, '11, and Alisha Holmberg, '11.

At the annual meeting of Anthropologists and Sociologists of Kentucky this fall, recent alumnae Lisa Miller, '08, and Quatavia Wilkins, '08, presented their senior research findings. Kim-Dung Nguyen, '10, and Debra Bulluck, '09, also presented. For her undergraduate research, Lisa was awarded first place. Quatavia placed second in a graduate-level competition.

Three Berea Students Rank as Technology Titans

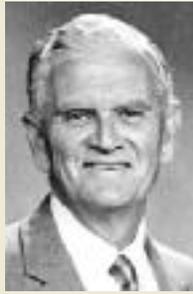
In November, technology major Allan Bridges, '10, carried first place in the 2008 Industrial Technology IQ contest at the annual National Association of Industrial Technology conference in Nashville. In the semi-final round, Bridges and fellow technology students Desiree Bernardoni, '10, and George Shea, '09, outperformed more than 65 other students representing colleges and universities across the nation, including Purdue, Indiana State, and Illinois State universities.

Weatherford and Jones to Be Honored

This spring two Berea College centers will receive new names in public christening ceremonies. The Board of Trustees passed resolutions to rename the Campus Christian Center as the "Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. Campus Christian Center" and the Appalachian Center as the "Loyal Jones Appalachian Center."

As the sixth president of Berea College, serving from 1967-84, Willis Weatherford envisioned the creation of the Campus Christian Center, and his efforts were instrumental in securing the endowment funding necessary for its creation. In 1970, he became the Center's founding director.

A native of western North Carolina, Loyal Jones, '54, has devoted his life to serving the Appalachian region first through his work with the Council of the Southern Mountains, and later through teaching and scholarship at Berea College. A well-known author and scholar on Appalachian culture, humor, music, and religion, he helped to shape the Appalachian Center and the Appalachian Studies program at the College.



Willis D. Weatherford, Jr.



Loyal Jones

Author Hazel Cole Kendle Shares Memories

Hazel Cole Kendle, 88-year-old co-author of the recently published *The Cole Family Christmas*, visited Berea College for a luncheon, reading, and book signing. Kendle's work tells of a coal miner's family, a story handed down through generations of the Cole Family, all of whom were raised in Benham, Kentucky.

Hazel's eldest sister, Maud Cole, '23, attended Berea College and was the first of her family to go to college. A percentage of the book's net proceeds will be donated to the Berea College Appalachian Fund, which makes grants to organizations working to improve the health, education, and general welfare of people living in the Appalachian Mountains and surrounding areas.



David Cooke '82

Hazel Cole Kendle signs books for her fans.

Kentucky African American Educators Honored at Founders' Day

In October, Berea College honored three extraordinary graduates at its ninth annual Founders' Day convocation. President Larry Shinn presented the John G. Fee award to Mary Evans Sias, current president of Kentucky State University (KSU), on behalf of John H. Jackson (1874), James S. Hathaway (1884), and Green P. Russell (1897). The three Berea alumni served as KSU presidents for 41 of the institution's first 43 years.

The John G. Fee award is given posthumously to honor outstanding African American alumni, whose lives embody the interracial and coeducational commitments of Berea College founder John G. Fee. Honorees Jackson, Hathaway, and Russell each significantly improved the educational infrastructure of the university where 2,600 students are now enrolled and 500 faculty and staff are employed.

Born in 1850 in Lexington, Kentucky, Jackson was the first recorded African American to graduate from Berea College, the first president of the Kentucky Negro Education Association, and twice president of KSU (1886-98 and 1907-10). Hathaway, born in 1859, worked for the city of Berea after graduation and twice served as president of KSU (1900-07 and 1910-12). Russell, who was born in 1880, was said to have recalled his baptism by Reverend Fee. Russell also twice served as president of KSU (1912-23 and 1924-29).

Musical entertainment for the convocation was provided by the Kentucky State University Concert Choir and Berea College's Black Music Ensemble.



O'Neil Arnold '85

President Shinn hosted the friends and descendants of three Berea alumni who were the founding presidents of Kentucky State University.

Sports Update

Mountaineer Basketball Is Worth Cheering About

After trouncing their opponents during the Homecoming games in early November, Berea College basketball players are proving to be teams to be reckoned with this season. On November 9, the Berea women bowled over Ohio State–Newark 114-55, grabbing 70 rebounds. Six players scored in the double digits, led by standout Candace Walls, '09, with 17 points.

Candace, a Stanton, Kentucky native, was Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) Player of the Week three times last fall, being a KIAC Quick Leader in a per-game average for points (23.43), steals (3.79), and rebounds (10.79) as of mid-December. As of December 13, the women's season record was 7-7 on the year.

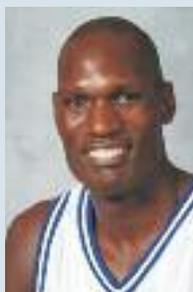
The men also pounded their Homecoming opponent, Boyce College, with a 95-49 victory. They were especially hot in the first half, going into intermission with a 49-15 lead. Senior Cody Hornsby, '09, of Athens, Ohio, scored eight of a 13-0 run after the opening buzzer, ending with 20 points total. Coach John Mills was especially pleased with the 52 rebounds, 23 of which were offensive grabs. Charles Wandera, '09, of Uganda, was named a Quick Leader by KIAC for his average of 5.67 assists early in the season. As of mid-December, the men were 6-4 for the season.



Candace Walls



Cody Hornsby



Charles Wandera



Michelle Towles, '10

The Boomers and Seniors games drew participants from around the region.

“Boomers” and “Seniors” Compete at Berea

Athletes from around the Bluegrass Region and Ohio joined local competitors gathered at Berea College's Seabury Center to compete in the First Annual Bluegrass Regional Boomer and Senior Games co-sponsored by the

College physical education and health department. Eight sanctioned athletic competitions and an arts and crafts exhibit took place on campus and at Berea Country Club. These events included singles racquetball, swimming, track and field, and singles/doubles tennis.

All competitors were required to be at least 50 years of age to compete in the eight competitions, and medals were awarded for first through third place finishes in each five-year age bracket. More than 200 entries were received for the Arts and Crafts exhibit, including quilts, wood crafts, wall hangings, photography, woven baskets, paintings, and jewelry.

“This event provided a spotlight for healthy, active, older adults who displayed lifestyles that were so positive to see,” said professor Martha Beagle, who helped to organize the event.

Runners Sprint to National Level

Two cross country Berea runners, Britin Ellard, '09, and Antonio Marchi, '10, advanced to the national level this fall, competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics cross country finals in Wisconsin. Britin, an Academic All-American nominee, was named to the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) All-Conference Team.

The Berea cross country men ended the season first in the conference. Three Berea runners were named to the All-Conference Team: Trey Baker, '11, Jarrod Wilder, '10, and Marchi, who was named KIAC Runner of the Year. Berea men and women's coach Michael Johnson was named KIAC Coach of the Year.



Britin Ellard



Antonio Marchi

Women Serve Up a Good Year



Damian Buttle, '11

The Berea College women's tennis team had a successful year, finishing third in the Kentucky Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (KIAC) with a 5-5 record. Emily Schneider, '09, of Middlesboro, Kentucky, was named to the All-Conference Team.

Allen Jackson, Berea tennis coach for men and women, was named KIAC Coach of the Year. He is a U.S. National Tennis Association certified teaching professional, a United States Tennis Association (USTA) tournament director and a USTA certified official.

News from Faculty, Staff, and Trustees

Shan Ayers Receives Puppet Grant

Theatre professor Shan Ayers received a 2009 professional development grant from the Kentucky Arts Council to build Bunraku puppets for the Mountain Spirit Company, a Berea-based theatre company initiated by Ayers and his wife, playwright Trish Ayers.

His interest in Japanese theatre began after a 2002 January short term trip to Japan. The following summer, Ayers returned to Japan with his students to present puppets they had made to those who inspired them. The puppets performed in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Missouri, Iowa, California, Kentucky, and Japan. The puppets have been integrated into Berea Kinetic Expressions and the Berea Rain Barrel Festival. Two of the puppets were on exhibit this fall at the Berea Arts Council gallery.



Dominic Buttle '11

Shan Ayers has performed nationwide and in Japan with his Bunraku puppets.

Fleming Recognized for his Contributions to African American History



Berea College trustee and Cincinnati Museum Center director emeritus Dr. John Fleming, '66, received the Award of Distinction at the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History.

This national award is given infrequently and only to recognize long and very distinguished individual service and contributions to the field of state and local history.

“John has been one of this institution’s greatest assets,” said Doug McDonald, president and CEO of Cincinnati Museum Center. “His contributions, not only to the Museum Center, but to African American history as a whole, are immeasurable.”

Fleming marched with Martin Luther King, Jr. and Berea College students in the historic 1965 Selma–Montgomery March. In 2008, President George W. Bush appointed him to the National Museum of African American History and Culture Plan for Action Presidential Commission.

bell hooks Joins Renee Shaw on KET



bell hooks

Feminist scholar and author of more than 30 books on issues such as social class, gender, and race, bell hooks joined Renee Shaw, host of “Connections” on Kentucky Educational Television (KET), in December. They discussed hooks’ return to Kentucky and her latest book, *Belonging: A Culture of Place*.

A Kentucky native, hooks discussed her decision to return to the commonwealth and join the faculty at Berea College after holding positions at Yale University, Oberlin College, and the City College of New York. She also discussed one of her earlier books, *Sisters of the Yam: Black Women and Self-Recovery*, which focuses on healing psychological damage inflicted by racism and sexism.

Joy Hager Receives Mustaine Award



Joy Hager

The Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (KAHPERD) bestowed upon Berea faculty member Joy Hager the W. Walter H. Mustaine Award – the highest honor KAHPERD grants.

Hager began teaching women’s physical education at Berea College in 1961. Under her guidance, the department grew exponentially, bringing a balance to the male and female physical education departments. A great advocate for gender equality, she has coached a range of sports, from tennis to basketball, and has chaired the women’s physical education department, as well as been athletic director at the College.

In 1996 she served as president of KAHPERD and received the Distinguished Service Award in 1989.

Richey Speaks in World Religions Forum

Associate professor and Asian Studies director Jeffrey Richey recently spoke on Confucianism at a Chautauqua lecture on Eastern Kentucky University’s campus. The lecture series discussed a variety of issues focusing on religion and politics. Richey’s lecture was the fifth in a series on “Spiritual Freedom in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Confucianism.”

■ BUILDING BERA—*Extending the Legacy*

Boone Tavern Goes Green

By Tim Jordan, '76



General manager Gary McCormick stands with Eleanor Frost, one of the life-sized historic figures who will appear on the 'guest list' during the grand re-opening of Boone Tavern. "Nellie," wife of President William G. Frost, opened the hotel in 1909 to accommodate the overflow of visitors to Berea College.

With the renovation of the historic Boone Tavern Hotel completed, everyone is seeing green. Not to worry—the stately white columns on the hotel's façade have not been painted to match the grass; rather, the renovation and the on-going operations of the hotel are green in an eco-friendly way. The renovation is designed to earn Boone Tavern the distinction of being the first LEED-certified hotel in Kentucky, a rating given by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED).

From top to bottom and inside and out, the architectural design of Boone Tavern's renovation incorporates many aspects to improve guests' comfort and the environment. For example, the hotel's specialized roof system and its landscaping are designed to minimize "heat island effect," caused by buildings and paved surfaces attracting and retaining more solar heat than undeveloped or rural areas.

The renovations, which will reduce annual energy consumption by 17.6%, include increased insulation along exterior walls and between heating/cooling zones, improved energy-efficient temperature control, use of Energy Star™ lighting, and heat recovery coils to capture energy from kitchen wastewater. Light tubes on the third floor provide natural light and reduce daytime electrical lighting.

Windows throughout the hotel have energy-saving, low-emissivity glass. A special natural lighting feature is in the new Skylight Room. This area of the hotel was the original dining room, which formerly had skylights. Now, energy-efficient skylights replace those that were covered over decades ago, bringing daylight into an otherwise windowless interior area. Even the paint, adhesives, and carpets were chosen to minimize off-gassing of ozone and other air pollutants. Increased ventilation throughout the hotel will improve fresh air circulation. Boone Tavern is smoke-free, both inside and within 50 feet of the outside of the hotel.

Selective demolition has preserved and reused a majority of the building's structure.

For example, the hotel's beautiful woodwork was retained or moved and reused elsewhere inside. More than 75 percent of construction and demolition waste was recycled or reused in other buildings. Other construction and renovation materials were made regionally from recycled products.

As a "Kentucky Proud" member restaurant, both dining room and kitchen use local and regional food, much of which is produced at the College farm and greenhouses. Rather than send food scraps to a dumpster or down a garbage disposal, restaurant waste is collected for composting on the College farm.

From the moment guests arrive, they will notice a greener hotel. Low-emission vehicles receive preferred parking; a charging station serves electric vehicles. Guest rooms offer individual temperature control for energy-efficient heating and cooling. Lights in unoccupied rooms and offices shut off automatically. Guest room furniture is a mix of new and recycled, made or refinished by Berea College Student Woodcraft. Low-flow faucets and showerheads, and low-volume toilets conserve potable water. Amenities in the guest bathrooms are natural products – free of petrol-derived ingredients and packaged in low-weight containers to reduce waste. The hotel features a towel and linen reuse program.

Throughout the hotel, paper products are post-consumer recycled materials and e-mail is preferred to print. All paper, plastic, and aluminum materials are recycled through the College recycling program. Bio-friendly pest controls and approved green cleaning products are used.

Guests may book a green tour of the hotel and learn more about what they can do for the environment at home. To further encourage green travel, Boone Tavern provides bicycles for its guests to use while shopping at local galleries. To go green and see Boone Tavern's features up close, make reservations by e-mail at boonetavern@berea.edu or call 1.800.366.9358.

Green House Effects

By Josh Burczyk, '11

Through innovative community-based research (CBR) grant funding from Learn and Serve America, Berea students are rolling up their sleeves and putting some muscle behind creating solutions to Madison County and Appalachia's energy problems.

Last year the Center for Excellence in Learning through Service (CELTS) and the Ecological Sustainability Education program held public meetings with several community-based groups—including Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC), the Kentucky Environmental Foundation, the League of Women Voters, and others—to explore opportunities to address local energy problems. Students teamed with community partners to seek solutions. The partnerships among citizens, students, and College faculty have provided valuable experiences for students, empowered local people to take more active roles, and strengthened the community.

Last summer two energy and empowerment projects were funded by this community-based research money. Phil Hawn, '08, and Erin Finsel, '11, worked with HomeGrown HideAways (HGHA) on sustainable building projects, while Beth Bissmeyer, '09, and Ian McHugh, '08, paired with KFTC, studying energy use and voting patterns.

HomeGrown HideAways, established by Nathan and Jessica Turner, '07, offers educational workshops in natural building and green technology. Through hands-on experience, HGHA teaches others to build functional, sustainable structures. Their innovative building practices include timber-frame construction; straw-bale and earth bags for insulation and wall construction; earthen floors made of pressed clay, sand, and straw and sealed with a natural mix of oils; and living rooftops composed of grasses and native drought-resistant plants. Other commonly used materials are cob,

Above: Phil Hawn, '08, raises a rafter of the building at HomeGrown HideAways.



Beth Bissmeyer, '09, and Ian McHugh, '08, register voters and conduct surveys on energy use in Madison County.

cordwood, slip straw, stone, and all-natural paints and plasters. Phil played an active role in the development of HGHA, teaching more than 35 workshops in the past five years alone.

The grants allowed Phil and Erin, both sustainability majors, to purchase supplies and tools for two summer projects. One project created a cob and straw bale studio for local artist Michelle Hayden. Another created the first code-approved earth bag structure in Kentucky built for full-time occupancy. Erin kept a detailed written and photographic journal of her experiences over the summer, which can be found at www.erinisbuildingstuff.blogspot.com.

Beth Bissmeyer, '09, an English major with an Appalachian Studies minor, and Ian McHugh, '08, a peace and social justice major, worked on a dual-pronged summer project with KFTC. While they registered voters for the important November 2008 election, Beth and Ian also surveyed Madison County residents about energy facts and consumption patterns.

The survey questions gathered data on household energy usage, energy conservation, financial situations, and participants' understanding of the issues. Beth and Ian began with door-to-door surveys. Later, they set up booths outside shopping outlets and grocery stores in Richmond and Berea. The

CBR grant funds purchased the energy-efficient, compact fluorescent light bulbs that were given to survey participants.

Although most of those surveyed knew little about their energy sources, 84 percent said they wanted more information on energy conservation, and 94 percent had already taken steps to reduce the effect of energy costs on their household. Ninety-four percent felt "threatened" by rising energy costs, and low-income families were heavily affected; more than half of those surveyed made under \$25,000 a year. Seventy-five percent of those who had taken no energy-saving steps identified themselves as renters. Ten percent of that group had requested assistance in energy conservation techniques from their landlord with no results.

The contact information gathered from survey participants will allow KFTC to more easily reach out to community members in the future. The findings will be used to determine public needs and have an impact on future community-based projects. Through these projects, Berea College hopes to create an atmosphere in which campus and local public cooperation is more commonplace, ensuring support for solutions to the problems that most affect our community.

From Treetop Vistas to VISTA Volunteer

By LeAnna Kaiser, '12

As a child, Megan Naseman, '07, was a voracious tree climber, searching out high branches around her house. Her passion for trees was so strong that her parents imposed a height rule. She could only climb trees that she could both get up and down. But when her mother spied Megan stacking chairs on a wagon to reach a high limb, they realized her passion to explore nature was instinctive. As an adult, Megan has focused this passion on fighting environmental injustices.

Megan recalls a spring break in Maytown (Floyd County), Kentucky. She and other Berea students helped a local woman in her effort to file a "lands unsuitable for mining" petition by searching the woods for endangered plant species. Inside a cave, she says, lay a flower with unique coloration that caught someone's eye. There followed "a rush with someone shouting, 'Everyone come look at this!'" says Megan. Although the plant wasn't actually endangered, it was this "hope of the moment" that deeply affected Megan, infusing her passion for the fight against environmental injustice.

In the evenings, as they thumbed through lists of threatened and endangered native plants, trying to identify their specimens, the sense of shared community deepened. Afterward, they often played Bluegrass music for hours, bringing together two of Megan's passions.

Today, Megan works in the CELTS (Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service) office as an AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) worker, serving on- and off-campus groups and organizations through an Energy and Empowerment grant funded by Learn and Serve America. She has helped make connections among faculty, students, and community groups that are working to help communities rally against new coal-fired power plants, help low-income

residents weatherize their homes and lower their energy bills, and start a community solar panel project. She also helps the CELTS office to cultivate such community-based research projects as the grant writing short term course, taught by Kate Egerton of the English Department. They worked with the community groups Sustainable Berea and Madison County Home Energy

Improvement Program. Says Ashley Cochrane, CELTS associate director for service learning and student-led service programs, "There's so much going on through the work of the students in our center. All of us help out where needed."

Generally, VISTA volunteers focus on poverty issues; Megan's primary focus has been on the impact of energy issues on people with a low income. Most of these families are renters, and as non-homeowners, their options are limited. Rented homes may be insufficiently insulated, causing energy bills to shoot up 300 percent. In addition, "people who have a low income are often politically disenfranchised." She has seen new coal-fired power plants located next to low-income areas, where they may meet little resistance. "If power plants locate in poor neighborhoods, these folks have higher rates of asthma, cancer, and other health issues which affect them even more because of healthcare costs." Strip mining has also had "a devastating impact on the economy in Appalachia," she says. Her response to these issues has been to support local solutions by connecting



Megan Naseman, '07, offers a PowerPoint presentation on the community-based energy projects.

Aaron Gilman, '12

groups working on similar projects.

Participating in community dialogue at many weekly meetings, Megan functions as a liaison to continue conversations about energy-efficiency issues and environmental injustice. One group she worked with coordinated a local energy expo in March with the Madison County Extension Office. Megan attends several group discussions each week and says, "At almost every meeting, I can find points of collaboration."

While studying at Berea, Megan says she was "blown away by the depth of Appalachian culture and potential for sustainability to meet a lot of the needs in the region." Today, that momentum continues as she brings the strands of the community together to form one growing body working toward environmental justice and sustainability. "All of us can take some steps to go from where we are to a different kind of future," she says. While Megan admits, "Easy victories aren't a characteristic of the environmental movement by any means," she is willing to work hard toward that end.

Several large topographic maps of Tennessee and Kentucky cover Dave Pelren's desk. The maps overlap as they provide a view of the Cumberland River as it flows through one state and enters another.

From his desk in Cookeville, Tennessee, David Pelren, '86, discusses water quality issues with a fellow U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist in southeast Kentucky. Both states rely upon the river for consumption, agriculture, and recreation. Whatever drains into the water basin eventually has the potential to create problems downstream.

Sometimes the problems are natural, like beaver dams causing sediment build-up, but usually the problems are man-made. Sediment builds up because of housing and commercial development growth. Legal logging results in erosion and sedimentation. Another problem comes from toxicants and contaminants, either through municipal waste water or industrial dumping.

The tricky part comes from identifying the "non-point source" problems, which, Dave says, "are harder to wrap your arms around." They could be caused by the cumulative impact of poor agricultural management or run-off from chemically fertilized lawns.

Involving school children and civic groups in the study of waterways can

create greater interest in boating and fishing; it also develops ambassadors for water quality in their communities. Programs like Tennessee's "Adopt-a-River" are educating citizens to become more aware of the environment. As groups of adults and school-age children wade into a creek, they scoop up a net full of bugs and discover a new world.

"It's just a really good time," says Dave. "I enjoy showing people a new world down there, picking up a rock and finding big and little bugs that some people have never heard of. You've got to get even the little bitty ones," he cautions, "because they're important in determining whether a stream is clean or nasty."

Dave describes standing where the rocks jut above the stream, digging down into the gravel, and gathering whatever stirs, then dumping the full net into a tray. He says he tries to get at least 200 individual invertebrates per sample. Program participants then sort the various creatures into categories that live in a range from tolerant to intolerant of pollution. The more black fly or midge larvae, round worms, leeches, and lunged snails, the more polluted the water.

"You can send a water sample for laboratory analysis to get a snapshot in time," he says, "but a net full of bugs can tell you what's happening in the stream all the time. ... If you find mayflies and stoneflies with a good mix of other invertebrates, then you have a pretty healthy stream."

One might say Dave and his brother, Eric Pelren, '88, grew up with wildlife, fields, woods, and streams as part of their

cultural inheritance. (Eric is a professor of wildlife science in the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Tennessee in Martin. He is currently focusing on the balance of needs for wildlife habitat versus growth of native switchgrass as a potential source of ethanol production.) The brothers often went rock climbing and spelunking, which evolved into another current shared interest – the prevention of white-nose syndrome, a fungal infection that is endangering bats in Tennessee and the Northeast.

Their father, Doug Pelren, was a fisheries biologist with the state of Tennessee in Murfreesboro. Dave recalls crawling through limestone caves and fishing with his family. His early love of nature propelled his interest at Berea College in working as a Big Brother to younger middle school students through Students for Appalachia. Working with those young people in the local streams and College Forest provided Dave with a repertoire of teaching moments that he has added to his Adopt-a-River endeavors in Tennessee. "I had a great time learning how to share nature with kids. And it's something I miss," he says. "When I do get out with kids into a stream, it's a lot of fun."

Most of Dave's job as a biologist involves working with other agencies during permitting processes. When developers follow the conditions authorized in their project plans, he says, there is little to no pollution problem. He encourages everyone who uses the streams to document any impacts they might see with a digital



David Pelren

A Tennessean's

By Normandi Ellis



camera. A photo with the date and location sent to the water quality control agency can prove helpful in finding a timely solution to a problem.

David is aware of the issues that Appalachian communities face when coal energy waste enters rivers and streams. Spillage from slurry ponds that contain mine waste, such as the one in Martin County, Kentucky in 2000, and the recent 2008 failure of a Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) fly ash pond in Kingston, Tennessee, underscore the magnitude of the environmental impacts. The damages caused by these incidents are the long-lasting effects of our current energy policies and the underfunding of infrastructure projects. David says that water quality issues at times have suffered from regulatory oversights. “These tragic situations are reminders that, although the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act have helped us to greatly improve environmental conditions, we frequently take a step backward.”

That is where he sees the importance of community-driven groups like Adopt-a-River. “We, as a people, place a lot of value on natural resources. While our regulatory systems provide varying levels of environmental conservation, regular observation and action by people who use and enjoy these resources has become more and more important.” He urges others to get involved in their communities. “Big problems can result in big improvements,” he said, “but continual vigilance provides the basis for a priceless service.”



Community members, both young and old, came together during a recent Adopt-A-River training program in Rugby, Tennessee.

David Pelren, '86

Another aspect of Dave’s job is river enhancement – restoring rivers that have been altered to their original state. “You might change a pool habitat to a free-flowing river again, which can allow fish and the mussels to move through. River enhancement may include the removal of silt buildup, the restoration of eroded banks, and the introduction of native plants in an effort to return the water to its pre-industrial state. If you do your job well, fish species that have died out in that area because of the problem will return through migration once the situation is restored to balance.”

For all of his outstanding achievements in pollution control, conservation and

protection of wetlands and wild or natural rivers, prevention of water degradation; and implementation of improved water quality standards, David Pelren received the 2007 Water Conservationist of the Year award from the Tennessee Wildlife Federation.

When Dave is not counting bugs or poring over topographic maps, he may be found with his wife and daughter in the log house he built in the woods north of town, or kayaking on Daddy’s Creek, part of the Obed Wild and Scenic River system. He pauses to name his favorite pastimes “Yeah, paddling, hunting turkey and deer, hiking, and fishing... Those are some of my main pleasures these days.”

Water World

Daddy’s Creek is a part of the National Wild and Scenic River in the Obed watershed in southeast Tennessee.



Kati's Big

By Elizabeth Vega, '12

Big questions arise in unexpected places. Kati Maginel, '07, discovered hers while travelling along the dusty road between Chiapas, Mexico and Costa Rica.

Peering out the window, she saw a different life pass before her. Small wooden houses, pieced from scrap wood and hard work, dotted the landscape. Subsistence farmers worked the land and women with baskets of local food on their heads hustled to market. Bikes, often with two or three people on board, outnumbered the cars. Sitting comfortably on a bus, Kati felt the gap between her life and theirs. She was there to experience their culture, yet she was somewhat limited to experiencing their world through a glass window.

"I was personally involved in some injustice there," she says. Kati felt an even bigger question break through the surface. "I started to wonder if traveling abroad to learn how other people live sustainably was worth the environmental impact of getting there."

She packed her question all the way back to Berea College and turned it into an independent study on the environmental impact of travel abroad programs. Kati's study would create discourse and spur change. Her study revealed three things. First, traveling abroad does indeed have a tremendous environmental impact. Kati estimates that an average of 1½ tons of CO₂ emissions are released for every study abroad flight from Berea. Kati feels strongly that Berea can provide sustainability leadership by travel-related carbon emissions and carbon offsets to neutralize our emissions.

Second, for students who have never experienced a world beyond their Appalachian hometowns, the benefits of studying abroad are undeniable. Third, college travel abroad programs – not just Berea College – can mitigate their carbon footprint by better managing resources and encouraging environmental awareness in their study abroad programs, which will translate into more sustainable living abroad and at home.

According to Soren Peterson, education abroad advisor, by adopting efforts to

promote change on an individual level, students should feel encouraged to give back to host communities while abroad, as outlined by the Green Passport Pledge (<http://www.greenpassport.us/>). Also, upon returning to Berea College, students should help support the local environment by adopting small practices, like planting trees to offset the carbon impact of their travel. These choices are voluntary, says Peterson, but they are the first steps toward making Berea's study abroad program more ecologically conscious.

With regard to this issue, Peterson says the College is still in the thinking process. Rather than paying a carbon offset surcharge to the Nature Conservancy or the airlines, it hopes to engage students in being environmentally responsible on a local level. In lieu of having students pay a surcharge which might be viewed as just an extra \$40 fee, Peterson would like for them to be involved in such work as planting trees or installing photovoltaic cells for solar-powered energy in the region. Peterson says, "If they can make a direct connection and a tangible, physical contribution, this connects that money to something meaningful on the local level."

Kati's discussions with Peterson and her academic advisor, Richard Olson, director of the Sustainability and Environmental Studies program, have shaped the College's decision not to reach for the easy fix, but rather to incorporate a change that would be lasting to both students and the community. They also shaped how Kati would deliver her message.

Olson believes that all College activities, including study abroad, need to be re-evaluated. "The era of constant economic growth and plentiful oil is ending," he says. "To truly affect climate change, we need to cut our fossil fuel use by 80 percent." He says that environmental degradation underlies increasing global poverty and competition for scarce resources. Olson encourages new ways of teaching about other cultures that don't require extensive travel. One way might be prioritizing 'local

Kati Maginel sits atop a pyramid in Chiapas, Mexico.

Question



Kati hikes the mountains of Costa Rica.



Katie's garden at the SENS House.



The view from Kati's tent one evening on Lake Atitlan, Guatemala.



El Mercad offers locally grown food and hand-made products.

studies' and local actions that support campus life and limit economic and environmental impact.

Peterson is a strong proponent of the expanding horizons that education abroad offers – especially for Berea College students who generally come from families whose lack of economic resources have limited their opportunities to venture very far outside their communities. By his own admission, he initially gave minimal thought to the ecological impact of traveling abroad.

Caught in the middle of these two opposing interests, Kati has felt torn. Both camps make valid points. One needs to see oneself as a global citizen, but one shouldn't ruin said world in the process. "My travels changed my life, so, of course, I wanted people to have similar opportunities to study abroad," she says. "I also became increasingly concerned with the environmental impact, especially as I learned about peak oil and global climate change. I really wanted to come from a middle ground."

The collaboration resulted in Kati's independent study having an unexpected depth. In her search for finding balance between educational and ecological values, Kati made presentations to encourage her peers to leave less of a footprint on Mother Earth when they travel and to advocate that all study abroad programs have an environmental component. Kati published her essay on travel and sustainability in

Abroad View (Spring 2008), a magazine marketed to university travel programs.

Experiences like Kati's have been the foundation for steady change, not just at Berea, but on other campuses as well. By turning Kati's big and complicated question into tangible and reachable answers, she could highlight the need to make better use of the time students spend abroad.

Academic Vice President and Provost Carolyn Newton says that more institutions are finding themselves having similar conversations about the global, environmental issues that face study abroad programs –in addition to the economic challenges that we all face. Berea is seeking ways to provide on campus opportunities for students to share their newfound understanding in classrooms and in the wider community. "Creating the best balance in our academic programs depends on open and serious campus debate and deliberation," she says. "At Berea, we are

fortunate that our students, staff, and faculty bring their liberal arts skills of critical thinking, evidence-based arguments, and commitment to civil dialogue to these critical discussions."

Since graduation, Kati has continued to work on sustainability issues, and Peterson still consults with her as he shapes the College's study abroad program. Her independent study had a lasting effect on her as well. "The entire process has been inspirational and enlightening," Kati says. "As with most sustainability concerns, there is no easy resolution to this issue, but it is clear that every person who claims to be environmentally conscious must determine for themselves whether their decision to travel is justifiable."

For more information on peak oil and economic impacts, visit:
www.postcarbon.org

For more information on green travel programs, visit:
<http://www.greenpassport.us/>

To read Kati's article on travel abroad and sustainability issues, visit:
www.abroadview.org/green/

Of Pedal Power and

By Julie Sowell



Damian Buttle, '11

George Shea, '09, works on his pedal-powered vehicle in his garage in Berea.

All around Berea's campus, faculty and students are thinking innovatively to address issues of energy use, alternative fuels, and new uses for "old" technologies.

Brad Christensen isn't deterred by the good-natured wise cracks about the "Flintstone-mobile" he works on in his garage and test drives around his neighborhood. The assistant professor of technology and industrial arts says he understands people have a hard time conceiving of a pedal-powered vehicle as a car of the future, instead of one from the past. He still hopes to have the last laugh.

This past summer, he began a project with technology majors Chris Dueker, '11, George Shea, '09, and Noah McGraw, '10, designing prototypes for a pedal-powered vehicle with electric assist that could become a viable transportation option. The project was one of 15 sponsored by Berea's Undergraduate Research and Creative Projects Program.

"We started out thinking about why people don't ride bicycles to work," says Brad. In short, they're too slow, bad weather can be a problem, the effort can make a rider hot and sweaty, and you can't carry much with you. "Adding a small motor to make the bike faster and putting a body around it addresses most of those issues, and you just might get more people riding bikes instead of driving their cars to work."

Ultimately they decided to design vehicles defined as mopeds, which have a top speed of 30 miles per hour (mph) and a motor no larger than 2 horsepower (hp), over an electric bike (maximum 20 mph and 1 hp motor), optimized for short-distance commuting and low-speed driving around town – "the kind of driving we do nearly 70 percent of the time," says Brad.

By the end of the summer, each had designed and built a basic vehicle that varied by number of wheels, seats, and frame style, and they began to test them. The students have continued refining designs and hope to end up with a viable design that others can build from blueprints. As his sabbatical year project, Brad has taken the next steps in development of these cars, which include a vehicle redesign, building an aerodynamic body, and exploring small-scale production. "I'm looking at building a smaller, more compact vehicle, combining the best features from all the prototypes we made this summer."

Currently Brad is working with Professor Peter Hackbert of Berea's Entrepreneurship for the Public Good Program, investigating local manufacturing options. The idea would be to produce perhaps 10 or 20 vehicles that would be test-driven by Berea faculty and staff to determine the cost to build and run them, to see if there's a market for expanding.

"An in-town, occasional vehicle will have to be very low cost if people are going to buy one as a second, third, or even fourth vehicle," says Brad. "We're shooting for low initial purchase price—under \$2,000

French Fry Oil

is ideal—plus low insurance rates and low fuel costs.”

“A major problem with transportation right now is that vehicles have capabilities that far exceed our needs,” says Brad. “My van will haul seven people comfortably at 70 mph for thousands of miles. Instead, I drive the thing three miles to the office, going along at 25 mph, alone. I just don’t need that much vehicle. If you do the math, I’m using 2 tablespoons of gasoline to transport a 175-lb. man and 9 gallons of gasoline to transport my 5,000-lb. van.”

Referring to the prototype in his garage, Brad says, “This little vehicle won’t replace my van. I’ll always need to own both.” The trick, he says, is matching the vehicle’s capability with the transportation need, as well as producing vehicles for specific uses. “I think we’re going to see a lot more of that in the future.”

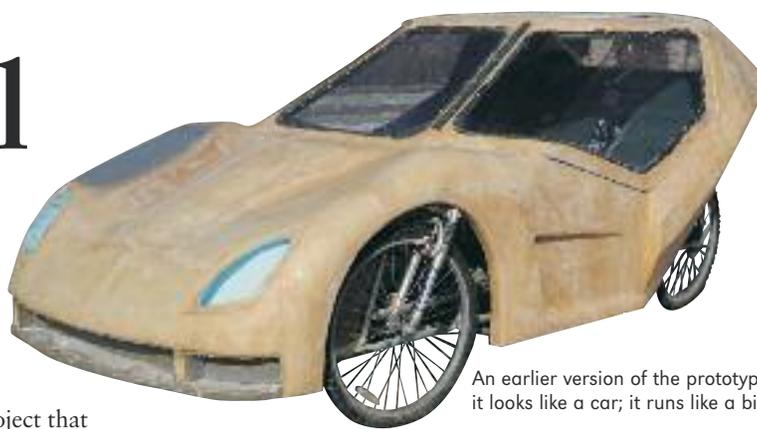
For Brad Christensen, the future is now. He plans to begin pedaling his commuter vehicle to work this spring – at a cost of about a penny a mile, or 6 cents for the round trip.

Nathan Hall, '09, an independent sustainable agriculture and industrial

management major, has been working on another project that has the potential to reduce the use of fossil fuels of vehicles already in use on campus – tractors, trucks, and other equipment used in the College farm’s operations, as well as those used by facilities management. For the past two years he’s been making biodiesel from vegetable oil waste that he collects from Berea College’s food service and the campus café. He is presently using it to fuel his own diesel car and two farm tractors for research purposes.

Biodiesel is a carbon-neutral fuel. This means that the plants that produce the oil from which biodiesel is made consume the same amount of carbon dioxide while they are growing as is later released into the atmosphere when the fuel is burned. Biodiesel also burns clean, producing lower particulate emissions and no soot.

A comprehensive proposal Nathan hopes will be approved by the College would provide funding for an up-to-code production facility operated by students through Berea’s student labor program. It



Dominic Buttle, '11

An earlier version of the prototype: it looks like a car; it runs like a bike.

would use renewable energy to run the multi-step process – similar to the old-fashioned soap-making process of filtering, heating, and chemically separating and draining off the glycerides – needed to produce a clean fuel. The partially automated facility would produce enough fuel from waste oil for the farm and a portion of the needs of facilities management.

“By using clean biodiesel we can eliminate the use of petroleum diesel, which has a lot of negative environmental impacts,” says Nathan. “Initiatives like this can go a long way in making College operations more sustainable.”

Assistant professor of chemistry Matt Saderholm is exploring ways the chemistry department can aid Nathan and other biodiesel producers in the local community by providing a chemical analysis to be sure the mixture is acceptable.

“If you don’t have the purification process worked out correctly, you can end up damaging a vehicle or having higher maintenance costs because the fuel isn’t clean enough for use,” explains Matthew. “Once we have our equipment readied, we will be able to perform an analytical test to determine whether a fuel is good ‘as is’ or has too much water or glycerides and the clean-up process needs to be changed.”

Like Brad and Nathan, Matthew says he finds special satisfaction in putting his expertise and knowledge to work on “real-world” needs. “It’s always exciting to apply chemistry to everyday life.”



Nathan Hall, '09, hopes to establish his own biodiesel fuel company as a start-up business in Appalachia, where he grew up.

Locally Grown Food Takes Root

Deb McIntyre, '10

Berea College has a long history of taking care of its students by maintaining sustainable practices. It began with the labor program in 1871, which was followed by the planting of the College garden two years later.

In the midst of the Depression, homemade butter and pitchers of milk from the College dairy graced tables in the dining hall while students enjoyed vegetables and fruits from the College's 60 acres of gardens, bread from the College bakery, and eggs and meat from the College farm. It was the height of the College's self-sufficiency. This was a way of life for the institution for a century, but by the 1980s, the dairy and poultry operations were closed and the days of serving local food were virtually history.

Seventy years after the peak of Berea's food sustainability, the clock is turning back.



Aaron Gilmour, '12
Coach John Mills grabs a salad made from College-grown greens.

Homegrown vegetables and fruits, College meats, and homemade baked goods are snatched up by eager buyers from booths at the biweekly on-campus farmers' market from spring through fall. In food service, students may enjoy mushrooms and salad greens grown in the College greenhouses, beets and potatoes from the College gardens, and beef and pork products from the College farm.

At Boone Tavern, diners also feast on College honey, tomatoes, blueberries, and spoonbread made from locally grown and milled cornmeal. "We use the majority of the

College items to prepare our feature appetizers and entrees. I generally walk to the farmers' market and buy what I would like to use for the next few days," says chef Jeffrey Newman.



Celeste Pressley, '08
Last year students built an herb garden outside Food Service. It awaits spring planting.

Cait McClanahan, who serves as a liaison between College Food Service and local farmers, is excited about the local products that are becoming available to the campus community. After purchasing a bag of flour from the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department (ANR) at a recent farmers' market, she said, "It was still warm from milling." The wheat had been recently harvested from the farm and ground by the millstone in the Agriculture Building just prior to sale. Other certified organic farm products include vegetables, tree fruits, berries, shiitake mushrooms, jam, and honey.

Sodexo, the College food service provider, recently signed a new contract which stipulates that a certain percentage of food served will be local and College-produced. Cait says, "Students on campuses across the country are demanding more local food and starting up gardens. Here, we have this amazing resource practically at the back door of where students eat every day." As a result, College pork, beef, greens, and other edibles are frequently offered to students.

It's All about Dirt

Scraps and leftovers are not wasted. Food waste scraped into buckets is collected by student workers and taken to the gardens

and greenhouse, where it is composted along with wood chips and biodegradable paper. Over time, this compost is spread onto the fields to enrich the soil.

Last summer the Natural Resources Conservation Service completed a soil extraction and analysis at the College gardens. Soil scientist Steve Jacobs said that the farm's soil is improving every year because of the College's sustainability practices. Associate professor Sean Clark, ANR chairperson, explained that organic material such as food waste is a "crucial growth factor" for crop plants, aiding moisture retention and providing nutrients. "The gradual breakdown and decay of carbon-based life forms slowly add to the layer of organic matter over a period of centuries." Mike Panciera, agriculture professor, agrees. "They've added so much organic matter over the years that it actually changed the soil class."

Inactive fields are not ignored. Workers spread a thick layer of biodegradable mulch on them to preserve moisture, smother weeds, and enrich the soil. Currently, the



O'Neil Arnold, '95
The College farm raises grass-fed livestock.

College owns 15 acres of certified, organic farmland. Active fields use an environmentally sound, no-till method that limits the use of herbicides. Sean explains that the practice involves "rolling down" cover crops and allowing the plant material to serve as mulch and a natural herbicide for the next crop. Cover crops are often referred to as green manure. The crop isn't meant to just



Michelle Towles, '10

Student beekeepers maintain the health of the hives in the College gardens.

be consumed; it is returned to the soil and becomes compost. A seed drill is then used for planting. This no-till method decreases equipment and fossil fuel use.

Livestock management practices are also changing. For example, farm faculty members are experimenting in using forage crops to feed animals. "We are all learning how much better for us the grass-fed meats are because of fat profiles," says Mike. "Rather than growing grain for the animals, it is better for the planet to graze untillable areas. Eating grass keeps animals healthier because it is what their bellies are designed to do."

The College began preparing for a pastured hog operation last summer, putting the necessary fencing infrastructure in place. Exploration into these old, but renewed, practices has been taking place among staff and students. Student summer research projects included creating jams and unique sausage recipes from slightly blemished and leftover cuts of meat. The students performed customer taste-tests, collected data, developed budgets, and assessed the profitability of adding these items to the College farm online and indoor/outdoor markets, says Mike.

To Market, To Market

Berea's ANR department has been actively researching and experimenting with new crops, products, processing, and marketing. Some of those new local offerings are, or will be, College-produced cornmeal,

flour, sausage, jam, honey, and even fruit pies. These goods – as well as cuts of meat, greens, vegetables, and more – are being sold at the Berea farmers' market and to local shoppers from the College's certified mobile kitchen unit and online at <http://bereacollege.locallygrown.net/>. The online store keeps a live inventory, and anyone willing to come to the market to pick up their purchases may order. Cait McClanahan and Jeffery Newman have become regular customers, buying fresh items for Food Service and Boone Tavern.

Pork, beef, lamb, and goat are sold by the cut as well as in wholes, halves, and quarters to buyers' specifications. Vegetables and fruits are packaged and sold as they are available. Agriculture students benefit from working to create a market for the food they grow. Students are trained to use the online store and inventory system, set up and tear down the market display, create advertising, keep records, and develop people skills. The idea is to create usable models for students who want to create a viable business and feed people in the community where they live.



Pork from the College farm may be ordered online and picked up from the farmers' market.

Dominion Buttle, '11

Eating from Your Own Yard

The food forest in the College's Ecovillage produces food on a small scale. First planted in 2003, the forest currently has about 40 fruit and nut trees, including pecan, hazelnut, walnut, apple, pear, peach, pawpaw, persimmon and berries. According to Jean Majewski, '10, caretaker, a food forest imitates a natural woodland while providing a sustainable food source. Under the trees are planted shrubs (some fruit-bearing), shade-tolerant

flowers, grasses, and perennial herbs. The plants provide sources for pollinators like butterflies and bees, as well as food for humans.

Last year 50 blueberry bushes, as well as raspberries, blackberries, and grapes,



Assistant farm manager Andrew Oles, '05, sells farm fresh produce at the summer market.

Dominion Buttle, '11

were planted elsewhere in the Ecovillage. These practices are permaculture in design. "Once everything is there and in place after several years, you don't have to water it or keep adding to the soil," says Jean. "Anyone who lives in the Ecovillage is welcome to pick what they can use. To meet people picking plums is an incredible community building thing."

In 2007, Berea staff, faculty, and community members organized Sustainable Berea, a group that works together to develop stronger households, neighborhoods, and community through activities that promote local and global sustainability. One of their projects encourages edible yards, urban orchards, and community gardens. They offer workshops to educate the public on growing produce for personal consumption.

Sarah Paulson, farm marketing and office manager, says that the way fresh food tastes, how it is grown, and what that means to a community matters to her. "To me, food is a very intimate experience. You're taking something into your body. You're trusting what's in it. Just like we have all of these wonderful craft traditions here, these food methods are really traditions that we are bringing back."

Contributing writers: Danielle Holleran, '09, and Angela Forcey, '08

Sustainability:

By President Larry D. Shinn

For the last 15 years, Berea College has made concerted strides toward achieving ecological sustainability and, by example, leading others toward a more simple and less cluttered life. This goal is an imperative not only for each of us and for Berea College, but for our planet.

On an average day, humans around the world add 27 million tons of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, permanently eliminate dozens of species, destroy hundreds of square miles of rain forests, overharvest ever-greater numbers of fish species, and increase our world's population by about 300,000 persons. The 2005 *United Nation Millennium Ecosystems Survey, Ecosystems and Human Well-Being*, concluded that 15 of the 24 natural systems that support human life on earth are in distress.

Doing something about the problem means conceiving a new human/nature relationship. Green living may be a new notion for some, but at Berea College the idea is long lived. Berea's mission focuses upon the idea of "plain living" and



O'Neil Arnold, '85

President Larry Shinn met with legislators and educators interested in sustainability issues at the Energizing Kentucky conferences.

recognizing the interdependence of each of us with our world. These principles of sustainability are stated in the seventh Great Commitment which encourages "a

way of life characterized by plain living, pride in labor well done, zest for learning, high personal standards, and concern for the welfare of others."



A Contemporary Berea Imperative

Sustainability and Berea's Mission

Though our mission encouraged sustainability and our policies often reflected such principles, we have pursued ecologically sensitive practices more consciously and consistently in the past 15 years. Acting in a more sustainable way required analyzing the challenges and opportunities Berea College had before it. Before the College could “walk the talk,” it was necessary to examine carefully what it means to engage in a more sustainable institutional life. (*A timeline of sustainability conversations and initiatives appears in the sidebar “Sustainability Timeline at Berea College” on pages 24-25.*)

Prior to 1994 there were no organized faculty, staff, and administrative actions centered on sustainability; there was no environmental studies curriculum, no standards for green facilities maintenance or ecological building renovation; nor was there a campus-wide energy policy. A decade later, the College offers an interdisciplinary Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) program, and has green maintenance and equipment standards in place. Twenty-one buildings on campus have been

renovated to ever-increasing green standards, attaining in the Lincoln Hall renovation the first green Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Berea's Ecovillage has become a national model for understanding sustainability in ecological and human terms.

Developing a Sustainability Mindset

In little more than 10 years, Berea College made huge leaps in green living by developing a mindset inclined toward sustainability. The College has benefited from the leadership of faculty, students, staff, and administrators. We engaged in continuous learning about the subject, bringing to our campus knowledgeable scholars and consultants and seeking their advice. We experimented with emerging principles and learned by doing. While our learning curve was steep, we made steady progress and continued to raise the bar of sustainability. Simply put, we believed that as a learning institution, every one of us could be model learners and teachers. With this frame of mind, we have built a knowledge base that still is growing.

In Berea's 1996 strategic plan, *Being and Becoming: Berea College in the 21st Century*, we sought “to understand the workings of our natural environment and the consequences of human interventions.” The plan called for students to study the sciences as well as explore the relationship between people and their environment. Several important initiatives have sprung from this imperative.

After a 1997 summit of internal and external experts, the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources



Damian Buttle, '11

In 2005 Lincoln Hall's renovation made it the first Silver LEED-certified building in Kentucky.



Berea's Ecovillage is a model for sustainable living for student parents and the community.

photo by Michelle Towles, '10

restructured its curriculum and farm on sustainable and, where appropriate, organic farming, with small and family farms as a special focus. Also in 1997, the Subcommittee on Sustainability (SOS) established an interdisciplinary program in Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS). Two faculty members were hired in sustainability studies to join professors teaching in complementary academic areas.

As president, I helped to frame the issues by providing convocation addresses to staff, faculty, and students. In 1996 I expressed two essential ideas in my address, "What if the Mountains Could Speak?" I suggested that the health and well-being of humans and our natural environment are inextricably linked and that our reliance on natural resources was not sustainable. "Living Upstream," the focus of my 2002 address, emphasized that we have a moral imperative to act conservatively and sustainably. To live upstream means to act as stewards of our children's and grandchildren's futures, since our actions today reach into their lifetimes and form their future prospects.

"Lessons from Easter Island," the subject of my 2007 convocation, sought to raise the level of our campus sustainability

discussions and pave the way for the SOS II committee's work. Sustainable environmental solutions, I stressed, require all of us to abandon narrow, self-serving policies and to embrace collaborative approaches to problem-solving across social, political, economic, and religious divides. The SOS II committee report was presented to the Strategic Planning Council in the fall of 2008 and is now under discussion.

During my fall 2008 convocation, I asked our campus to consider what it means to live "the simple life" in a modern society. Americans constitute less than 5% of the global population but use more than 20% of the world's natural resources. Clearly, the world cannot afford any more resource-devouring economies like that of the United States. Living a sustainable life in the 21st century means that all people in the world—including us in America—must live in ways that secure social justice, environmental integrity, and economic well-being now and for future generations. As world leaders, all Americans must conceive of more simple and sustainable lives in ecological, social, and personal terms that are also productive and rich in meaning. All of us must consider these options now before a global collapse of



Michelle Towles '10

As part of his student research and his labor position, Micah Johnson, '08, took care of the ecological machine, including its tanks, plants, and fish.

resources (or economies) decides it for us.

Over the past decade I have raised these questions and perspectives as a way to help frame the serious challenges that sustainability poses for this planet. Through our formal governance and informal public dialogues, we at Berea College have learned much about living sustainably in a complex world. We have

Sustainability Timeline at Berea College

1993

The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed Berea's Great Commitments and linked the College's long-held belief in "plain living" with contemporary ideas of sustainability understood in human and ecological terms.

1996

Berea's strategic plan, *Being and Becoming: Berea College in the 21st Century*, focused its attention on the interdependence of humans and the natural world when it said, "We seek to understand the workings of our natural environment and the consequences of human interventions." The strategic plan developed from the intertwining needs to provide educational, conceptual, and practical applications of sustainable living.

1997

After an "Agricultural Summit," the Agriculture and Natural Resources Department decided to refocus its program on sustainable and, as appropriate, organic farming with small and family farms as a special focus. This same year, the Strategic Planning Council (SPC) formed a Subcommittee on Sustainability (SOS) to begin dialogs to articulate a plan for educational and practical leadership.

1998

As a result of the SOS report, the interdisciplinary Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) program was established, integrating five departments to offer independent majors and minors in SENS. The first of 21 sustainable building renovations began with the geothermal heating in the Frost Building.

1999

The College hired a SENS program director and an endowed chair in ecological design to lead academic studies in the SENS minor. The faculty provides expertise and leadership for teaching concepts of sustainability and for campus-wide progress toward sustainable practices.

grown in our capacity to describe the ecological and personal sides of unsustainability, even as we have experimented with actions meant to alleviate the enormous challenges we humans face.

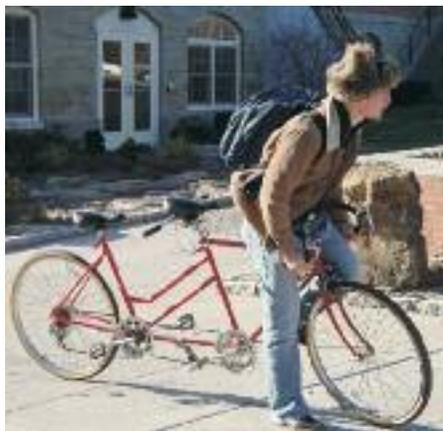
Walking the Talk

Conversations about sustainability have guided our thinking, but sustainable practices have placed Berea at the ecological forefront of colleges and universities in America. In the early and mid-1990s, students were the vanguard of Berea's recycling efforts, and student laborers still perform the bulk of our recycling. Students pressed the College to adopt the Kyoto Protocol on carbon emissions, to enact a "10X10" proposal (10 percent of Berea's energy from renewable sources by 2010), to install solar demonstration panels, and to affix energy monitoring devices for all residence halls. Our students have often been model activists for Berea's sustainable practices.

The most consistent area of increasingly sustainable practices at Berea has occurred in our building renovations. After learning in 1996 that that we had more than \$140 million in deferred

building renovations, we sought ways both to fund the work and to apply sustainable practices to our renovations. From 1998 to 2000, we used geothermal heating and cooling in four building renovations (Frost, Phelps Stokes, Woods-Penniman, and Fairchild). We expanded our energy-efficient horizon with a focus on natural light and open work spaces in the Woods-Penniman project.

We invited energy and ecological design consultants to Berea to educate us in best practices. The Rocky Mountain Institute, led by Amory Lovins, created an



Amanda Poyer '06

After Jon Carman, '12, took a short term welding class, he fashioned his own tandem bicycle.

energy master plan for the College. Sym Van der Ryn, noted architect and author of *Ecology Design*, designed the Draper Building renovation that became the College's first LEED-designed structure. Original building materials were reused in the renovation. Other features include collecting and storing rainwater for use in its dual-flush toilets and using ceiling fans over every work station.

The completed Lincoln Hall renovation in 2005 gave Berea and Kentucky its first LEED Silver-certified building. This project reused much of the original materials, installed "slate" on its roof made from recycled milk bottles, installed motion sensors to minimize the amount of electricity for lighting, and incorporated state-of-the-art monitoring systems for air quality, lighting, and physical comfort.

As the Administrative Committee discussed the need for new apartments to house our expanded single parents program, Berea decided to build a state-of-the-art model of sustainability, the Ecovillage. Its goals were to reduce energy and water consumption by 75%—to date we have achieved 60-65% reductions.

2000-2002

Consultants were brought to Berea and an energy master plan was created for the College. Noted author and architect Sym Van der Ryn designed the Draper Building renovation that became the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)-eligible renovation at Berea College.

2005

Following its near collapse, the total renovation of the administrative building, Lincoln Hall, gave Berea and Kentucky its first LEED Silver-certified building. In addition, to house student families and educate them in sustainable living practices, the College erected the Ecovillage with 32 apartments, a child development center, and a model demonstration house. By design, the Ecovillage uses 60-65% less energy and water than is used in conventional construction.

2006

The year-long removal of the College's coal-fired steam heating system and construction of a new, energy-efficient heating and cooling Central Plant cut costs and fuel consumption by 50%. Berea also hired its first sustainability coordinator who, among other tasks, was charged with the creation of "A Guide to Sustainability at Berea College," an annotated directory of programs, and a sustainable web presence.

2007

Berea College's Strategic Planning Council created the Subcommittee on Sustainability II (SOS-II) in the fall of 2007 to examine current, ongoing, and future sustainability initiatives still needed to reach articulated campus goals.

2008

Berea College President Larry Shinn joined the presidents of three other flagship Kentucky colleges and universities (Centre College, University of Kentucky, and University of Louisville) to create a statewide program called "Energizing Kentucky". Its purpose is to raise awareness of energy and sustainability issues that face Kentucky, the nation, and the world in the 21st Century.

Sewage from 50 apartments is transformed into “swimmable” quality water by being treated in a greenhouse “ecological machine” that processes sewage with tanks of water, plants, bacteria, and fish. The Ecovillage SENS House is nearly carbon neutral with its compost toilets, photovoltaic panels, use of rainwater, and other sustainable building features. The Ecovillage is the culmination of 14 years of increasingly sustainable building practices at the College.

When a new high-efficiency Central Plant replaced the old steam plant and came on-line in the fall of 2006, the campus used 50% fewer Btu of natural gas, saving \$1.2 million on heating expenses that year. We look forward to the completed renovation of Kentucky’s first LEED-eligible, green hotel—Historic Boone Tavern—which celebrates both its centennial and re-opening in 2009.

With every building renovation project we further our thinking about building and living in a more sustainable world.

Sharing Our Knowledge

As Berea’s thinking about sustainability and its sustainable practices matured, we began to reach out to local, state, and national audiences, sharing what we had learned. Our faculty and students have given green-building workshops, traveled to northern Mexico to build compost toilets and sun ovens for workers in poor factory towns, and presented proposals to the City of Berea for ways in which it could be more ecologically friendly. I have shared Berea’s sustainability journey and the lessons learned with the Kentucky American Institute of Architects, the National Association of College and University Business Officers, and other higher education gatherings beyond Berea.

Perhaps the most far-reaching initiative has been our multi-year partnership with the presidents of three flagship colleges and universities in Kentucky – Lee Todd (University of Kentucky), Jim Ramsey (University of Louisville), John Roush (Centre College), and myself – to help the Commonwealth of Kentucky realign its single-source energy policy to contemporary realities. Our partnership, called “Energizing Kentucky,” seeks to educate political, business, and



When Historic Boone Tavern re-opens this spring, it will be the state’s first green hotel.

educational leaders in the Commonwealth on energy sources, alternatives, and conservation. Together, we held two energy-focused conferences for business, political, and educational leaders in June and September of 2008 and will hold a final conference on April 15-16, 2009. Speakers at the conferences include Thomas Friedman, author of *Hot, Flat, and Crowded: Why We Need A Green Revolution – and How It Can Renew America*, and Jared Diamond, author of *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*.

Berea College’s participation in the Energizing Kentucky initiative offers models of thinking about green issues and leading-edge technologies in the area of sustainability. Through these collaborative dialogs across public universities and private colleges, we seek to focus

Kentucky’s thinking on 21st Century energy and education policies. When the Governor’s special subcommittee on energy held its meeting at the September conference as part of its explorations on energy policy, I was able to share this part of the Berea story.

Back home, Berea’s second Subcommittee on Sustainability II (SOS-II) issued its challenging and focused report on sustainability at Berea College in the fall of 2008. Currently, a new round of conversations has begun to move the College toward carbon neutrality and educational initiatives appropriate to Berea’s mission. What would it mean for Berea College to achieve carbon neutrality?—a pledge I signed on behalf of Berea College in 2006. How can we implement the necessary changes in our energy and material lifestyles to create and support a meaningful and more simple life for future generations? These are the questions we are asking now as we continue to learn and to act in ever more sustainable ways.

In a real sense, Berea College has blended its mission and historical concept of “plain living” with emerging contemporary sustainability challenges to forge a powerful community that seeks to “walk its talk.” In a world where not only global warming but numerous environmental crises define our existence, it is essential that educational institutions like Berea College provide real knowledge and practical examples of what a full, meaningful, and sustainable life can be.

For more information on the development of sustainability at Berea, you may read articles by Dr. Larry D. Shinn, president of Berea College on the following web sites:

“The Sustainable Life,” Berea College President’s Report 2007-08, p. 2
<http://www.berea.edu/publicrelations/publications/documents/presidentsreport07-08.pdf>

“The Lessons of Easter Island,” Berea College President’s Report 2006-07, p. 2
<http://www.berea.edu/publicrelations/publications/documents/presidentsreport06-07.pdf>

“Living Upstream,” Berea College President’s Report 2001-02, p. 1
<http://www.berea.edu/publicrelations/publications/documents/presidentsreport01-02.pdf>

“Being and Becoming: Berea College in the 21st Century,” The Strategic Plan for Berea College © 2005
<http://www.berea.edu/sacs/documents/2.5/Being&BecomingRevision,February'05.pdf>

Growing Greener Greens in Ohio

By Normandi Ellis

Take a look at a farm of the future. White gutters lined with basil plants rest over the fish tanks. A pipe leads from the tanks and branches to a T above a bed of grass. Barry Adler, '77, opens the valve. Collected rainwater soaks the basil roots, leaves the composted soil, and drains into the fish tanks. The fish tanks water the grass. Soil and gravel clean the water. The grass is harvested and fed to worms. The worms make compost – the fish eat the worms, and the compost grows basil.

Outside a wind turbine churns, looking like a model airplane atop a tall flagpole. It kicks on at about 6 miles per hour. The heat and energy of the sun are collected by solar photovoltaic cells and thermal collectors. Using wind and solar technologies, Barry's greenhouse generates its own electricity, taking it off the grid.

By combining aquaponics, vermiculture, and solar and wind technologies, Barry's RainFresh Harvests Farm (north of Columbus, Ohio) may be "the farm of the future." In some ways it is an old technology made new again. For centuries, farmers used windmills to pump water and grind grain. The rising cost of energy has hit today's farmers hard, and it may make sense again to install wind turbines and solar cells. While Barry doesn't advocate that all farmers invest in such an experimental system, he sees that alternative energy sources can create useful supplemental energy.

Barry's farm customers – Whole Foods and green grocers and restaurants in Columbus – appreciate the fact that they receive local herbs and produce grown using sustainable methods and 100 percent green energy. In addition to basil, chives, oregano, and other herbs, Barry grows various salad greens, blackberries, apples, pears, peppers, tomatoes, and even stevia, an alternative sweetener/dietary supplement.

Barry also works part-time with Green Energy Ohio and leads solar tours and visits to his farm. People are interested to learn that not only is his greenhouse green, but it was built using green technology. That includes its soybean foam insulation and active solar heat that pumps warm water through tubing in the greenhouse floor.

Barry first began studying biodynamic gardening in Santa Cruz, California. The urbanite left sunny California with the idea of living on a small farm in the mountains of North Carolina, which he did for a time. Then, wanting to finish his education, he came to Berea, where he majored in agriculture with an emphasis on horticulture. As part of his labor position, he worked with Labor and Student Life Dean Bill Ramsay, '52, writing a grant for local food production called "Seeds of Change." The funds were used to help rebuild the College greenhouse and vegetable gardens.

Building sustainably, eating local foods, and choosing energy that is better for the environment "just makes sense," Barry says. "There is a huge need in our society to change the way in which we organize and build our houses, process our wastes, grow our food, and provide and utilize energy. The Berea initiatives serve as an example of how we can make these changes and still maintain a high standard of living, while minimizing our impact on the environment."

He sees global warming, weather disasters, energy shortages, and economic turmoil as manifestations of a society that has tried to dominate nature rather than cooperate with it. "It is our responsibility to future generations to live more responsibly and develop communities that live in harmony with the natural world."



Barry Adler's RainFresh Harvests Farm is a model of sustainable green energy (solar and wind power) to produce local foods year-round.



Seeing the *An Eye-Opening Look*

By Leslie Ferguson Oles, '05

When you think of the Berea College Forest, what comes to mind? The Pinnacle on Mountain Day? Visiting Indian Fort for botany class? The cross-country trails? Owsley Fork Reservoir? It may be a hard question to answer, because many forget to pay much attention to the College's 8,400-acre forest, most of it lying just three miles from campus.

College forester John Perry says that the forest is invisible to the public, both the campus and town communities, and that it is this invisible nature that is the forest's greatest challenge. "People just see trees," says Perry, a Central Kentucky native who has held his post at the College for 16 years. "They don't think to ask, 'Are they healthy trees? Are they good trees? What kinds of trees are here?'" What the public cannot see when it looks at the College forest is that it is an extremely complex ecosystem with an equally complex purpose that dates back a hundred years and looks a hundred years into the future.

The College's first forester, Silas Mason, was a man of vision. A horticulture and forestry professor, Mason used his own funds to purchase tracts of land in hopes of establishing a forest for his students to study and for lumber use and sale to help support the College. In 1899, a benefactor, Sarah Fay, helped Mason with his mission by purchasing 5,400 acres and funding his College salary. The land that was acquired was not prime woodland, though; it was mostly abused, eroded, and burned



Glen Dandeneau and John Perry spend their days in the College Forest, tackling invasive species like bush honeysuckle and preserving walking trails from erosion.

farmland. Despite this, Mason looked not at what the land was, but what it could be. By 1907, Mason had developed a management plan for the College forest. This vision issued four main tenets: wildlife, water, wood, and recreation, which fall within an educational framework.

Just as Mason originally planned, the forest has continued to be a source of income through the sale of lumber. Outside contractors harvest about 200,000 board feet a year, which is about 20 acres of trees. Most harvests select for certain trees, while about a quarter of the harvests

Invisible: *at the College Forest*

are clear cuts. These cuts, which harvest all the trees within a certain area, are unpopular with the public. “People only see the recent clear cuts. They say it is ugly and trashing the land,” says Perry. He explains, though, that often completely opening a section of forest can be the best way to regenerate new growth, since certain seedlings cannot establish in shade.

This practice also allows the opportunity to study certain trees’ behavior, like the shortleaf pine, which is struggling to compete with other species without the occurrence of fire that is a necessary part of its growth cycle. Thus the shortleaf pine is declining in population. Perry also argues that within three years of a clear cut there are already trees his height (and he is a tall man) and within 25 years “you can’t even tell.” That may seem like a long time for most of us, but Perry has the long-term vision of a forester. “The forest takes a long time to show ideas, sometimes 100 years. It takes a while. You’ve got to be patient,” he says.

Today’s students have the opportunity to study much of the vision Mason had 100 years ago. Even though Berea has never had a formal forestry program, the College forest is continually a place of demonstration and research for Berea College students and the greater public. Berea botany, zoology, and forestry classes all use the College forest for study, while the Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) program and the technology department both have used its lumber in construction projects. Currently, the forest



Brushy Fork attracts many walkers and runners to its trails and stream.

Libby Folk Jones

is the subject of study by students in Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) classes; they are assessing the economic potential of the forest’s extensive network of trails.

The educational use of the forest is not limited to Berea College students though. Perry compares the forest to the Brushy Fork Institute, in that they both have “a mission that extends outside the College community.” School groups of all

ages come to the forest on field trips, and Perry occasionally hosts field days for other forestry professionals. The forest is also the site of extensive research by neighboring universities like the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Even the U.S. Forest Service uses the College forest for its research. John Perry calls it an “educational gem, just three miles from

our campus. People come from all over and say, 'I can't believe y'all have this.'"

The fact that the forest is still around shows the commitment of the College. "Silas Mason had the idea," says Perry, "and the College supported the long-term investment. They had the vision." Perry thinks that the forest really falls under the College's commitment to Appalachia because it is the "best land use for the region because the steep land doesn't need to be farmed or developed for houses." With its diverse mission, Perry says that the land exemplifies how any forest "can have multiple uses and different goals can exist without a problem. It shows that you can be sustainable in what you use, that it can be a wildlife habitat, a community amenity, and it is also sequestering a lot of carbon."

The forest also seems to be an example of maintaining a vision despite pressures of an encroaching world. Problems stemming from trespassing, biological, and environmental threats are all a reality for the College forest. Trespassing is a big problem. Offenders destroy property, abuse the land with ATV use, steal ginseng, and poach wildlife. Assistant forester Glen Dandeneau, '87, estimates that he spends at least 15 percent of his job diverting ATV riders by blocking their forged trails with stacked wood and debris. Dandeneau tells a funny story of a summer student laborer, who in the endless toil of blocking trails, said, "Well, at least we get paid to move this stuff. The ATV-ers have to work for free to make a new trail."

Biological threats, like trespassers, are difficult to control. Invasive species, such as Japanese and bush honeysuckle (both from Asia), have spread in some sections of the forest, although Perry says that overall they are not a very large problem. Some exotic insects such as the gypsy moth, the emerald ash borer, and the hemlock wooly adelgid are all future threats to the forest. The hemlock wooly adelgid is just one county away, and Perry expects it will be here within the next few years. The ash borer and gypsy moth may arrive within the next 10 years. These insects have no native predators. Once they arrive, they wreck havoc on their preferred tree species. Perry says it will only be possible

to save a few of the targeted trees. In the case of the hemlock, for example, Perry says that he would work to preserve the hemlocks around Anglin Falls.

As exotic insects make their homes closer to the forest, so do more people. Perry categorizes these environmental threats as "things that happen when sprawl is coming around you." Berea's home county, Madison County, is one of the fastest growing in the state of Kentucky. Its land development has certainly had an impact on the forest. Some effects include air pollution and the increased population of raccoons, skunks, and feral cats.

While the forest faces many threats, it is also a great boon in the current energy and financial situation of the country. The College is already offsetting its use of lumber by the equaled production of it, but Perry thinks that as fuel prices continue to rise and lumber from the South, the Pacific Northwest, and Canada rises in price, the lumber of the forest will become more important to both the College and the surrounding community. In the future, Perry thinks that the forest will become vital to the College's sustainability commitment. He says that there is a huge possibility for carbon offsetting—storing carbon in trees and soil in exchange for emitting it. Regardless of whether the forest is used formally in this way, he says that the forest soil alone, rather than blacktop, is valuable in the storage of carbon.

The fact that the forest has avoided the blacktop for so long is a feat, in Perry's book. "It has been a tough time for the forest, but that is changing. The time is coming when the College and town will need these ecological services again." Dandeneau thinks that he has seen a definite surge in the use of the forest's trails since the price of gas began to surge. Perry says, "When [the public] needs a place of solitude, something to eat, a place to soak up their car emissions, or a roof over their heads as energy costs increase, then the forest will become more visible."

Until the forest is in plain sight for the rest of us, John Perry and Glen Dandeneau will continue working to preserve those 8,400 invisible, but vital, acres.

Green Paper and Ink

Michael Loruss, '10

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is a private, nonprofit organization that ensures sustainable logging and business practices by monitoring companies bearing its certification to guarantee environmental stewardship and socioeconomic responsibility. Essentially, products that have been FSC approved are traceable from the forest to the consumer, and this transparency allows direct accountability between producers and the land, as well as surrounding communities. This September, Berea College's department of Printing Services received FSC certification, and all print materials, from letterheads to brochures, are derived from environmentally and socially sound sources.

Even before FSC standards were an industry-wide talking point, Berea College was taking steps toward reducing its ecological footprint. Ten years ago, there was a shift toward using more recycled paper for college publications, as well as soy-based inks in lieu of traditional—and more harmful—petroleum-based inks. Seven years ago, all campus photocopy machines were replaced to allow for duplex printing, now a norm in the business. Melvin Cooper, head of Printing Services, believes cutting down on waste to be one of the most immediate factors in limiting negative environmental impact. “That’s where 50 years from now, we’re just clogging landfills with something that could be reused. And we certainly don’t want toxic chemicals leeching out of the paper.”

Creative director and owner of Flying High Design, Sara Thilman believes that the *Berea College 2007-08 President's Report* is a functional partnership between aesthetics and eco-ethics. “The goal of this piece is to say, as a college, we’re walking our talk.” To be FSC certified, the report was printed with soy-based inks on chlorine-free paper composed of 100% post-consumer waste. And for this particular issue, benefits for following strict printing guidelines included savings of: 246 fully grown trees, 105,751



Glenn Martin

The sustainably printed *Berea College 2007-08 President's Report* came off the presses at Wendling Printing, one of the regional printers who offers FSC certified web press printing.

gallons of water, 177 million Btu of energy, 11,825 pounds of solid waste, and 23,066 pounds of greenhouse gasses.

According to Ms. Thilman, cost, comfort, and convenience—for the consumer side of the market—must also balance with economy, ecology, and equity—for both consumers and businesses. “We have to look for the overlaps so that there aren’t tradeoffs. Unless we, as decision makers, continue to ask questions, to demand other preferences, then there are a lot of industries that will keep on doing the same.”

And while green-washing is prevalent throughout advertising, appealing to a well-meaning—though largely under-informed—target audience, FSC-certified products and businesses set the sustainability standard for an entire industry. By adopting a more conscientious approach to purchasing and printing for campus-wide publications, Berea College can definitely say, “We’re walking our talk.” Still, in an ever-expanding world of consumption and waste, of supply



Dominic Buttle, '11

Melvin Cooper recently helped Berea College Printing Services become FSC certified.

and demand, it is necessary to remind ourselves to waste less while also demanding more ecologically friendly options.

Certainly, as the green movement grows, so will Berea's efforts to actively follow it for the sake of a cleaner environment.

Helping the World

Deb McIntyre, '10



George Lester holds one of the millions of catalytic converters that were built from his research and design.

photo by Roy Patterson

Breathe Easier

It was 1960. Twenty-five-year-old George Lester, '54, had only been on the job at Allied Chemical Company two years before he had earned a reputation. George was a boyish-looking, overly eager research chemist, keen on solving the world's pollution problems – now. He annoyed the glassblowers at his firm by asking every day for the reactor he had ordered. He was impatient with the mathematicians who seemed to take too long producing the data he required. "I'm sure I was a pain-in-the-backside until my need was getting the priority that I wanted," he says.

However, that very quality gave him an edge a few years later in developing the catalytic converter, a device that removed toxins from vehicle exhaust and made the air cleaner for millions. Catalytic converters have removed more than 90 percent of the nitrogen oxides and hydrocarbons from vehicle exhaust. This has reduced the rate of lung and bronchial disorders in children and adults all over the world. The carbon monoxide poisoning of those who work in tunnels and auto repair garages has been cut by more than 50 percent, and it is now very difficult to commit suicide by this method.

While he was a Berea sophomore, George found out that scientific studies had shown that the killer smog which was being experienced in big cities could be produced in the lab by exposing automotive exhaust to sunlight. Governmental and private industries were all searching for methods to remove the components of exhaust that were responsible for air pollution.

When Allied Chemical began working on the auto exhaust problem, George was champing at the bit to help, but there were already enough engineers working on it. Instead, he was told to focus on developing methods needed to make biodegradable

detergents, a long-term personal goal, but once he learned the details of the catalyst problem (lead deposits), he couldn't let go of the challenge.

"My interest (in the catalyst problem) was so obvious that finally I was warned not to attend in-house meetings on the program, and I was denied access to written and oral reports emanating from it." Despite those obstacles, George worked to solve the problem independently, and a catalyst component was the subject of his first U.S. patent, issued in 1963. Fearing to jeopardize his job, however, he "didn't go about bragging about it."

When the federal government passed the Clean Air Act in 1967, the firm vamped up its efforts to develop the catalytic converter as soon as possible. "By this time, the researchers working on the program had become somewhat discouraged and lethargic," says George. He was called into the office of someone in upper management and was told it had been decided that they needed "a real SOB" to lead the program. George was selected as the best candidate. "I accepted the back-door compliment because I was so anxious to get my teeth into that problem."

George Lester got his drive to answer life's questions from his parents, George and Mary Lou Cole Lester. His mother was principal of a three-room school in the coal camp town of Isaban, West Virginia. His father had previously been the principal, but the need for more income forced him to enter the coal mines. "My dad hated every day he worked in the mines, and some of my earliest memories were his threats that he would kill any of his sons who ever worked one day in the mines."

Realizing that college was the best route to escape his father's wrath, George worked to achieve this goal. He had started school early and was promoted to sixth grade in January of his fifth-grade year,



Class photo of George "Ronnie" Lester

making him two years younger than his high school classmates. As graduation loomed, the prospect of college didn't look good for him or his three brothers because of financial limitations. Fortunately, a cousin passed on the news that Berea College charged no tuition. George applied and was soon on the road to obtaining his doctorate. To him, Berea had saved him from his father's fate. "If there had been no Berea, I am not at all sure that I could have gone to college."

Early on, George dreamed of being a war correspondent like Ernie Pyle, but since Berea didn't have a journalism department, he looked for other interests and discovered a love for chemistry. "It seemed to me that there were principles that were intuitive and that chemicals reacted with each other according to principles that were rational and intuitive, so that learning did not depend extensively on rote memory."

A Sunday school teacher influenced his final decision to major in chemistry. She challenged him to think of a good thing

that might come out of that career. He told her about an idea he had to develop detergents that would degrade biologically and would not pollute the water, making soap suds come out of faucets. George did pursue that idea. Eventually 30 patents came from his research. While a colleague's solution to the suds problem was the one that was eventually used around the world, George believes his teacher would be "pleased with the social, health, and environmental benefits of the career she helped me decide to pursue."

After graduation, George moved to Lexington and furthered his education, earning his master's degree and then straight to his doctorate at the University of Kentucky. Delaying his doctorate, he felt, might cause his skills and confidence to atrophy. He also feared the responsibilities of a family might limit a return to graduate school. "Berea gave me the training in math, physics, and chemistry to allow me to achieve a level of success in graduate school and a career that I would never have dreamed possible."

George worked for Allied Chemical, later called AlliedSignal and then Honeywell, for nearly 38 years in Chicago, retiring in 1996 as a senior research fellow. While there, he was able to travel all over the world and served on President Bill Clinton's White House committee (formed in 1994) to develop policies to reduce greenhouse gases. While developing the ozone destruction catalyst for the Boeing 777, George recalls one of his most enjoyable experiences was traveling overseas to measure the ozone level in the airline cabins. "During most of my career, I would have paid my employer to do my job if I had been independently wealthy. I never told them that, though," he says.

George holds 45 U.S. patents, and he received the Industrial Research 100 Award for Development of Auto Exhaust Catalysts in 1973. Among his other awards are Scientific Achievement Awards from AlliedSignal for catalytic devices for vehicles, chemical warfare, and the Boeing 777; the E.V. Murphree Award in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (American Chemical Society, 2002); and the Gene Wise Award in Chemistry, Biochemistry and/or Chemical Engineering (2008). In 1996, members of the Society of Automotive



George Lester enjoys piloting his four-passenger plane.

Gordon Ewald

Engineers selected the catalytic converter as one of the top 10 greatest achievements of the first 100 years of the automobile industry.

Despite all that, George says his proudest moment came when he received the Berea College Distinguished Alumni Award in 1995. "Without the preparation that I got at Berea, I don't think I would have been very successful," he said at his acceptance speech. He also credited the College humanities classes for giving him balance in his life and instilling in him an appreciation for the fine arts. "As time passed, I found that seeds planted in these activities sprouted as much as 30 years later, and as the technical skills Berea provided were bearing fruit, so were the humanities." He found himself collecting fine art and even serving on the Board of Opera in Roanoke, Virginia, his chosen retirement city. "Berea helped me find success and then helped me to enjoy it."

As an adjunct professor at Northwestern University, George still participates in seminars on environmental and energy conservation. Retirement allows George to enjoy his favorite pursuits, golf and flying. He co-owns a

four-passenger plane and would love to have a chance behind the controls of a DC-3. He is still intrigued with the unanswered questions of science and loves to read industry articles. For the past 25 years he's been theorizing on how fast the force of gravity moves. "I am convinced that the speed of gravity is infinite, and I have found some studies which indeed conclude that it is at least 100 billion billion times faster than the speed of light."

George gets a lot of satisfaction when he looks at the impact his work has made. Not only did he develop catalysts that destroyed ozone in motor vehicles and airplanes, but the catalysts also work in spacecraft; chemical and biological warfare agents; printing and chemical processing plants; and the coal-fired and gas-turbine power and incinerator industries.

"I don't think I could have chosen another career that would have been as personally and professionally rewarding and done as much good for society and the environment, within my capabilities. I was darn lucky, just in the right place at the right time with the right skills and colleagues. Some might think there was a divine hand on the scales."

AlumniConnections

With more than 17,000 members around the world, the Berea College Alumni Association represents a diverse yet connected extended community. We encourage all our alumni to develop strong ties with friends and to Berea by engaging in our many programs, services, and activities.



Berea Is Coming to You!

Berea College Clubs are all over the country. One is probably meeting near you!

To find alums in your community, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 1.866.804.0591 or visit <http://alumni.berea.edu>

Alumni Executive Council Officers

President: Rob Stafford, '89

President-Elect: James "Bones" Owens, '66

Past President: Rachel Berry Henkle, '64

Larry D. Shinn

Mae Suramek, '95

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Jennifer Jones Allen, '01

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Jason Miller, '98

Lowell Hamilton, '61

Bob Miller, '58

D. Wesley Poythress, '89

Ronald Dockery, '70

Edward Seay, '95

Timothy Jones, '94

Joe Brandenburg, '71

Willie Sanders, '69

Four Honored with Alumni Awards

At the 2008 Homecoming festivities, **Jerry B. Hale, '73**, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award for his lifetime achievement in information technology (IT). After earning his mathematics degree, Jerry went directly to Eastman Chemical Company, from which he recently retired as vice president and chief information officer. He currently consults with Microsoft. A founding member of the Chemical Information Technology Center, he holds leadership positions in business and philanthropic agencies, in youth athletic programs, and in his church in Kingsport, Tennessee. Computerworld honored him as a Premier 100 IT Leader.

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award winner **Donna Sabino Butt, '90**, was recognized by First Lady Laura Bush and the Kentucky General Assembly for her efforts to spotlight the importance of preschool. She has co-authored two education books, created an authors' workshop for gifted and talented students, offers workshops for the Berea Regional Training Center, and is involved with the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program. The Somerset-Pulaski County (Kentucky) Chamber of Commerce recognized Donna for her positive influence on young athletes in the community.

President Larry Shinn and Nancy Shinn received Honorary Alumnus Awards. Raised on a small farm in Alliance, Ohio, Dr. Shinn received an undergraduate degree in religion from Baldwin-Wallace College in 1964. The college athlete married Nancy, his high school sweetheart, in 1963. Their first work together was teaching in Quaker mission schools in Jordan. Dr. Shinn graduated from Drew Theological School in 1968 and received his doctorate from Princeton University in 1972. He was a professor at Oberlin College for 14 years, and before coming to Berea, he was a professor and administrator at Bucknell University. Since becoming the eighth president of Berea College in 1994, he has moved the College toward increased sustainability and undertaken the "Extending Berea's Legacy" campaign. A frequent speaker at regional and national meetings, he recently partnered with three other Kentucky colleges and universities to create the "Energize Kentucky" initiative.

Nancy Shinn received her bachelor's



Back row: Donna (Sabino) and James Butt; Jerry and Nancy Hale. Front row: President Larry Shinn and Nancy Shinn

degree from Baldwin-Wallace College and her master's degree from Bucknell University, concentrating on early childhood education. She taught school for 25 years before coming to the College. Nancy has been active in several regional and community groups in the fields of early childhood education and hospice. She serves as special assistant to the president, travels with her husband, hosts numerous events at their home, and plans and executes campus alumni, public relations, and development activities.

This Homecoming, two of Berea College's oldest community service programs, **Students for Appalachia** and **People Who Care**, honored their outstanding alumni with the Legacy of Service Award. This special award presentation was held in recognition of 40 years of student service, leadership, and learning, in partnership with the communities of Berea, Madison County, and beyond. The award is given in honor of those who have served in the past, the commitment of those serving today, and the potential of those who will serve, lead, and learn in the future.



On behalf of the Students for Appalachia, Jessica Price, '09, and Ruth Davis, '72, accepted the Legacy of Service Award from Larry Shinn.

David R. Lutzman

Viree Fogarty, '08

Alumni Make Connections



Chris Hoyes '08



1983



1988

class photos by Virte Fogarty, '08

Bereans were keeping connected at 2008's Homecoming with all kinds of special events designed to allow alumni and current students to mix and have a great time. A Middle Eastern dinner was held on Friday for alumni with Archbishop Elias Chacour, author of *Blood Brothers*, which recounts his life and the formation of the Israeli nation. The Archbishop spoke at a college-wide symposium on Wednesday, November 5.

The new BereaFEST on Saturday was a smashing success; its many booths were set up on the sunny lawn in front of the Alumni Building. Children enjoyed the balloon animals and cotton candy, while various student organizations manned booths, handing out information and prizes.

On Saturday night, both the men and women's basketball teams defeated the competition handily. The women played an incredible game against the Ohio State-Newark Titans, finishing at 114-55. The men also had a big win against the Boyce College Bulldogs, 95-49.

During half time, President Larry Shinn and First Lady Nancy Albright Shinn crowned the Homecoming royalty. Peter Aloys, '10, an independent major, and Britin Ellard, '09, a business administration major, were crowned Homecoming king and queen. The Black Student Union crowned Marcus Leslie, '10, as king and Jalicia Sturdivant, '12, as queen. The mixer after the game was packed with alumni celebrating the victories, catching up with old friends, and meeting new ones.



1993



1998



2003



2008

Photos and names of alumni may be found at www.berea.edu/alumni/homecoming/gallery/2008/default.asp

at Homecoming



Aaron Gilmore, '11



Chris Hayes '08



DeMarcus Clinton, '09

class photos by Damian Buttle, '11



Foundation 1940s



Foundation 1950s

In October Knapp Hall, Academy School, and Berea Foundation School held their reunions with campus tours, an ice cream social at the President's home, and a reunion banquet. Randall Storm, Fd'59, presented a special DVD show of "The Way We Were/Are," and Tom Coomer, Fd'60, BC'64, brought along his traveling exhibit of Foundation school memorabilia, artifacts, and photos.



Academy



Foundation 1960s



Knapp Hall



Foundation 60th Anniversary

You can find us online: www.berea.edu/alumni/foundationacademy/default.asp

Summer Reunion 2009 **JUNE 12-14**

Welcome Back, Special Reunion Classes of 1939, 1944, 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, and 1979

Date: _____ Full Name: _____

Name (*first and last name as it will appear on your name tag*): _____ Class Year: _____

Spouse/Guest Name: _____ Spouse/Guest Class Year (if applicable): _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Country: _____ Zip: _____ Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Friday, June 12

_____ # of tickets (Cost: \$30 each) **Alumni Craft Workshops** Friday, 9:00 a.m.

Choose One Per Guest: _____ Woodworking _____ Weaving _____ Broom Making

_____ # of guests attending (no charge) **Great Commitments Society Reception** *Baird Lounge, Alumni Building* Friday, 2:00 p.m.

_____ # of guests attending (no charge) **Renewal of Wedding Vows** *A special service at Danforth Chapel* Friday, 4:30 p.m.

_____ # of tickets (Cost \$12 each) **Picnic on the Quad** *Casual outdoor picnic with food and music* Friday, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 13

_____ # of guests attending (no charge) **50th Reunion Breakfast** *Hosted by President and Nancy Shinn for the class of 1959* Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

_____ # of tickets (Cost \$10 each) **Sweetheart Breakfast** *Special breakfast for couples who met at Berea College* Saturday, 8:00 a.m.

_____ # of tickets (Cost \$12 each) **Class Luncheon** *Dining Services, Alumni Building* Saturday, Noon

Choose One Per Guest: _____ Non-Vegetarian Meal _____ Vegetarian Meal

_____ # of guests attending (no charge) **Alumni Awards Reception** *Meet our 2009 Honorees (No Dress Code)* Saturday, 5:00 p.m.

Distinguished Alumnus Award:

Bill Best, '59

Distinguished Alumnus Award:

Vi Farmer, '61

_____ # of Tickets (Cost \$25 each) **2009 Summer Gala** *Dinner and dancing featuring live music (No Dress Code)* Saturday, 6:30 p.m.

Choose One Per Guest: _____ Non-Vegetarian Meal _____ Vegetarian Meal

Pay by Credit Card

Charge my VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER, or AMERICAN EXPRESS

Contribution to Berea Fund: \$ _____

Ticket Costs: \$ _____

TOTAL: \$ _____

Card Type: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Card Number: _____

Signature of Card Holder: _____

Print Name: _____

Pay by Check

Payable to Berea College

Contribution to Berea Fund: \$ _____

Ticket Costs: \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Check # (if applicable): _____

*** For a pre-printed name tag and registration packet, early reservations must be made by **June 5, 2009**. Registration packets will **not** be mailed, but will be available for pick-up at the Alumni Building beginning June 12, 2009. A limited number of tickets will be available for purchase at the registration desk during Summer Reunion. **Tickets purchased and refund requests made after June 5, 2009 are non-refundable.** Registration forms must be postmarked by June 5, 2009.

HOW TO REGISTER

Online: <http://alumni.berea.edu> • Fax: (859) 985-3178 • Phone: (866) 804-0591 (toll free)

Mail: Berea College Alumni Relations, CPO 2203, Berea, KY 40404

About Berea People

1944

Evelyn Barr Goad and Earl Goad are residents at Oakleaf Village, an assisted living residence in Greer, SC.

1947

Mary Lou Haigler Salter and **Dr. James Salter, Jr.**, '49 were sent on an Alaskan cruise by their children for their 60th wedding anniversary. Both are retired from medicine and spend time between Richmond, KY, Palm Bay and Milton, FL.

Mary "Bette" Hiott Perry, Cx'47 and **William "Bill" J. Perry**, Cx'49 are volunteers in their church and community. They have been married 61 years and have five daughters, 11 grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. They reside in Easley, SC.

1949

Rosa Lee Case Baldwin is a retired high school teacher and resides in Skyland, NC.

The Freedom to Read Foundation created the **Carol A. Nemeyer** Memorial Fund to honor Dr. Carol Nemeyer, Cx'49, who died June 30, 2008. It honors the legacy of her service and commitment to intellectual freedom.

Sheridan L. Risley resides at Greenspring, a continuing care retirement community in Springfield, VA.

1951

Mary Lou Allgood Martin is working on a sequel to her novel, *Above the Slate*. In 2008, she took her eight grandchildren to Harlan County to explore their roots. She resides in Albuquerque, NM.

Fred E. Winebarger is in real estate and estate goods sales. He owns and manages three warehouses of used goods and antiques. He resides in Big Rapids, MI.

1954

Dr. Joe L. Morgan was a delegate to the September 2008 Republican National Convention in St. Paul, MN, where he was the oldest delegate from North Carolina. He resides in Marshall, NC.

1955

Tom Kress, Cx'55 retired from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's advisory committee and enjoys playing basketball and fly-fishing. He is a member of the Knoxville Senior Olympics basketball team, which recently won a silver medal in the West Virginia Senior games in 2008. He resides in Oak Ridge, TN.

1956

Ray Corns is the new associate commissioner in the Kentucky Education Department. He is a former circuit judge and wrote the original ruling that led to the Kentucky Education Reform Act. He resides in Frankfort, KY.

1957

Ron Ross, Cx'57 and **Gail Parsons Ross**, '59 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on December 23,

2008. Both are retired from the educational system. They have two daughters and reside in Chesapeake, VA.

1959

Dorothy Carole Buckland Kickasola, Fd'59, BC'64 has written a book entitled *Proverbs and Sayings from the Southern Appalachian Mountains*. She and Ron, her husband, are retired teachers and musicians and reside in Hickory, NC.

Rev. Reginald Martin was installed as pastor emeritus at the First Baptist Church in Zanesville, OH in September 2008. He resides in Zanesville.

1960

Sylvia S. Barnett Johnson is the facilitator of the Beaumont Sarcoidosis Support Group in Royal Oak, MI. The hospital offers information and help on sarcoidosis. She resides in Detroit, MI.

Robert G. Lawson has an article in the *Kentucky Law Journal*, "PFO Law Reform: A Crucial First Step Toward Sentencing Sanity in Kentucky." He is a professor at the University of Kentucky College of Law and resides in Lexington, KY.

1961

Ival Secrest resides in Sierra Vista, AZ in the winters and spends the remainder of his time traveling in his RV. He is involved with the Arizona Berea Club.

1962

Hazel Nixon Brown was re-elected to the Yadkin County Board of Education, 2008-2012. She and Leonard L. Brown reside in Yadkinville, NC.

1964

Dorothy Carole Buckland Kickasola, Fd'59, BC'64 has written a book entitled *Proverbs and Sayings from the Southern Appalachian Mountains*. She and Ron, her husband, are retired teachers and musicians and reside in Hickory, NC.

1965

Jerry J. Cox won the post of secretary of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers in 2008. He is a sole practitioner and has been practicing criminal defense law for more than 40 years. He resides in Mt. Vernon, KY.

1966

George Hoskins is retired from the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, FL where he was a social worker for 25 years. He also retired as an officer in the Army Reserves and works part-time in a program supporting military members and their families. He and **Mary Harris Hoskins** reside in Orange Park, FL.

1967

Roberta Morrison Schofield, Fd'63, BC Cx'67, serves as Florida State Chairman of Haley House for the

Daughters of the American Revolution. She previously served a term as regent of the Tampa chapter. She resides in Tampa, FL.

1968

Phil W. Miller, vice president and controller for Southern States Cooperative, received the Silver Bowl Award presented by the National Society of Accountants for Cooperatives in 2008. It is a rare and prestigious recognition awarded by the NSAC Board of Directors to individuals who have distinguished themselves by enhancing the image and operation of the organization. He resides in Richmond, VA.

1973

Ray Landers, principal of Boaz Middle School in Boaz, AL, has been named the 2009 National Middle School Principal of the Year by the MetLife/National Association of Secondary School Principals. He was honored in October 2008 in Washington, DC. **Ann Kennamer Landers**, '74 is a school improvement specialist with the Alabama State Department of Education. They reside in Boaz, AL and have two children and two granddaughters.

1974

Joan Bowman, of Rocky Mount, VA, presented a talk on "The Role of the Artist in the Civilized World" at the Smith Mountain Arts Council in October 2008. She has shown her work throughout southwest and central Virginia and has taught art in the public school and at Ferrum College.

1977

Cheryl Cummins is residing in a retirement home in Richmond, VA.

Sumit Ganguly is Rabindranath Tagore Chair in Indian Cultures and Civilizations, directs the India Studies Program, and is director of research for the Center on American and Global Security at Indiana University. He resides in Bloomington, IN.

Bob Owen, a *San Antonio Express-News* photo journalist, was in the news for notifying the Associated Press about digitally altered photographs of slain US soldiers. A spokesman at Fort Stewart, GA acknowledged that the photo of one of two soldiers killed in Iraq and released to the Associated Press had been digitally altered. He resides in San Antonio, TX.

Fred Tilsley was elected president of the Kentucky School Media Association for the 2008-09 school year. He is the library media specialist at Sand Gap Elementary School in Jackson County, KY. **Margaret Wilson Tilsley**, '76 teaches chemistry at Madison Southern High School in Berea. They reside in Berea.

1978

Lynne Blankenship Caldwell is pastor of Brookland United Methodist Church in Richmond, VA. She is a visiting instructor/adjunct faculty member for United Methodist studies at both Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education, and The Samuel D. Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University in Richmond.



Mary Lou Allgood Martin, '51, and family



Phil W. Miller, '68



Ray Landers, '73

She is working on a doctorate of ministry at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC and resides in Richmond, VA.

Pamela D. Holmes Chabora brought to life the story of American poet Emily Dickinson in the one-woman traveling show "The Belle of Amherst" at the Berea Arena Theatre in Berea, KY in September 2008. She resides in Harwood, ND.

Carlos Wolfe retired in December 2008 from the Lee County School Board after teaching and coaching for 30 ½ years. He is serving as pastor of Free Hill Baptist Church in Nickelsville, VA. **Kathy Jerrell Wolfe** has been employed as a perinatal case manager with the Stone Mountain Health Services for 20 years. They have two daughters, Lisa and Rachel, and reside in Jonesville, VA.

1980

Jackie Collier, director of Alumni Relations at Eastern Kentucky University, received the 2008 Circle of Excellence Silver Award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education for District Conference Promotions. The award recognizes outstanding efforts in institutional advancement. She resides in Richmond, KY.

Sidney Saylor Farr's book, *My Appalachia*, was named Morehead University's Appalachian Writers Association Book of the Year in 2008. She resides in Berea.

1981

Steve Ridder was elected to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) 2008-09 Hall of Fame and recognized during the NAIA men's Basketball National Tournament, March 2009, in Branson, MO. It is the highest honor bestowed by the NAIA. He coaches men's basketball at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida and resides in Ormond Beach, FL.

1982

Tijan M. Sallah has written a book of poetry entitled *Dream Kingdom: New and Selected Poems*. He is an economist, poet/writer, Renaissance man, and one of Africa's most famous poets of the new generation. He and his wife have a daughter and son and reside in Potomac, MD.

1984

Heather Taylor Chapman and **Glenn Chapman**, '85 are teaching at Almaty International School in Kazakhstan. She is teaching lower elementary and he is teaching secondary technology. They have three sons.

1985

Married: Bonita "Bonny" Reinking Truett to Roy Steven "Steve" Johnson on December 15, 2007. **Dr. Patricia Reinking Burke**, '82, was a member of the wedding party. Bonny manages the Kentucky Interagency Coordination Center in Winchester, KY, which is owned by the Daniel Boone National Forest. Steve is a PAR mechanic at Osrarn-Sylvania in Winchester. The couple resides in Richmond, KY.

1986

Kelly Cogar is an academic advisor and adjunct faculty member at Spalding University in Louisville, KY where she resides.

Keep in Touch

The Berea College Alumni Association enjoys hearing from Bereans from all over the U.S. and the world. The "About Berea People" section of *Berea College Magazine* reports verifiable news that has been sent to the Association by our alumni. BCM reports the news you wish to share with your friends and associates. "About Berea People" reports changes in careers, addresses, weddings, retirements, births, and other items of importance. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. Your note may be edited for style and length. Our print deadlines may delay the appearance of your class news. While we will make every effort to put your information into the next issue, due to printing schedules, some delays are typical. We appreciate your understanding. For more information on how to submit class notes and photographs call 1.866.804.0591, e-mail diana_taylor@bereda.edu, or log on to www.bereda.edu/alumni.

Marcia Updike Mongelli completed a master of arts degree in special education in December 2007. She teaches for Dean College in Franklin, MA and resides in Norton, MA with her husband, Bill, and children, Andrew and Lauren.

Dr. Willie J. Parker is the director of family planning at Washington Hospital in Washington, DC. He is researching male contraception and joined the Board of Physicians for Reproductive Choice and Health in Washington, DC in 2008. He resides in New York, NY.

1987

Christine Kuhn is an artist residing in Lexington, KY. She was interviewed for an article in the *Lexington Herald-Leader* in the September 2008 Arts and Life section. She recently received a fellowship to combine her art works with music of Appalachia.

1988

Lt. Col. David Peeler and **Marlene Murray Peeler** resided at Eielson AFB in Alaska before their move to Wright-Patterson AFB in Ohio in 2008.

1990

Andrea Jane Moore Albertson, Cx'90 resides in northern Ohio with her husband, Paul, and their two daughters.

1991

Robin Mitchell Laxton obtained a master of science in nursing from Otterbein College in June 2008. She is practicing as a family nurse practitioner at Piketon Professional Center in Piketon, OH. She resides in Peebles, OH with her three children, Travis, Rachel, and Sarah.

1992

Hasan Davis was appointed to the Commonwealth's Deputy Commissioner of Operations for the Department of Juvenile Justice by Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear. For the past 10 years he has served as chair of the Kentucky Juvenile Justice Board. He and his family live in Paint Lick, KY.

1993

Married: Amanda Byrd Quintos to Pio Quintos on September 14, 2007. She is a personal care attendant and he is an electrical engineer. They reside in Radcliff, KY.

Dr. Greg Schwab is a tenured associate professor at the University of Kentucky. **Rebecca Suttles Schwab** is an eighth grade science teacher in Madison County Schools. The couple resides on a farm in Richmond, KY with their children, Joshua, Caroline, and Abigail.

Dr. Eric Stephens received the Faculty Excellence Award from the University of the Cumberlands. He is an associate professor of psychology at the university. He and **Rebecca Webb Stephens**, '94 have three daughters, Hannah, Bethany, and Abigail, and reside in Williamsburg, KY.

1994

Phil Chamberlin is director of New Life Publishing and director of marketing at New Life Church in Colorado Springs, CO. He and Carey, his wife, reside in Monument, CO.

Melissa JoAnn "M.J." Vance King is a freelance writer. She and her husband, Michael King, reside on the island of Oahu, HI.

Timothy Michael Lawson was a music teacher for nine years and left teaching to accept the position of senior pastor at River of Life Foursquare Church in Berea, KY. He and **Anne Brosnan Lawson**, Cx'99, have three children and reside in the Kingston area of Madison County.

Jessica Harless Wash and Mark Wash reside in Ypsilanti, MI with their son, Luke.

1995

Adoption: Samuel Kenneth Andrew Pieper and Savannah Elizabeth Ruth Pieper by **April Townsend Pieper** and **James Pieper** on July 15, 2008. April is an educational consultant with the Kentucky Department of Education in Frankfort, KY, where the family resides.

1996

Birth: a son, Jack Henry, to Hope Hall Arnold and **Eric Arnold**, '98, on November 8, 2007. The family resides in Winchester, KY.

Connie Dee Clark Barnett Lamb completed a PhD from the University of Kentucky College of Nursing. She is employed at Eastern Kentucky University as an associate professor in their undergraduate and graduate programs. She resides in Paint Lick, KY.

1998

Jennifer Campbell Kennedy, Cx'98 and Karl, her husband, have two daughters, Sydney Paige and Loryl "Brynn." The family resides in Stuarts Draft, VA.



Tijan M. Sallah,
'82



Bonita "Bonny" Reinking
Truett, '85, and Roy Steven
Johnson



Timothy Michael, '94, and
Anne Brosnan Lawson,
Cx'99, and children



Iveta Kyselova, '00, and
Michael Rudolf

1999

John Brown earned a master's degree from Campbellsville University in special education. He teaches at Deming High School in Robertson County, KY. **Abigail Jenkins Brown**, '02 earned a master's of education degree as a reading specialist from Georgetown College. She teaches at Cane Ridge Elementary School in Bourbon County, KY. They reside in Carlisle, KY.

Birth: a daughter, Alayna Paige, to **Tim Brown** and **Lisa Dillie Brown**, '00, on August 28, 2008. The family resides in Lexington, KY.

Trevor Hubbard is a behavior analyst at Starlight Behavioral Health Services in Huntington, WV. His area of interest includes working with individuals with challenging behaviors. He resides in Kenova, WV.

Anne Brosnan Lawson, Cx'99, and **Timothy Michael Lawson**, '94 have three children and reside in the Kingston area of Berea, KY. Timothy is the senior pastor at River of Life Foursquare Church in Berea.

Married: **Andrew Watson** to Evgenia Gornesteyeva on August 1, 2008. They reside in St. Petersburg, Russia.

2000

Married: **Iveta Kyselova** to Michael Rudolf on July 26, 2008 in Vienna, Switzerland. Iveta is a sales trader at UBS financial firm and Michael is a derivatives trader at Citigroup. They reside in London, England.

2001

Married: **Ashley Matthews** to Timothy Evans on September 20, 2008. They reside in Springfield, OH.

2002

Married: **Jennifer Brown** and James Matthew Vanhook in June 2008. Jennifer obtained a doctor of optometry degree from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in May 2008. They reside in Lexington, KY where Jennifer has her practice.

Noel Shreve Juett graduated with her master of science degree in nurse midwifery in December 2008. She and **Jeremy Juett**, '99 reside in Berea, KY with their children, Jackson and Tessa.

Married: **Kathleen Livingston** and **Eamonn FitzGerald**, '03, on July 3, 2008. There were more than 40 alumni, staff, and faculty in attendance. They reside in Lexington, KY.

2003

Birth: a daughter, Claire Isabella Caudill, to **Todd M. Caudill** and **Johnna McNew Caudill**, '05, on March 16, 2008. Todd is a police officer at the University of Kentucky and working on his master's at Eastern Kentucky University. Johnna is an RN at Saint Joseph Hospital in Berea. The family resides in Berea, KY.

Alice Driver published four articles in the *Guidebook to Vietnam with Love* (2008, Things Asian Press). Her next academic article, an interview with Colombian director Victor Gaviria, will be published in the *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies* in 2009. She resides in Lexington, KY.

2004

Jonathan Hardy obtained a doctor of dental medicine degree from University of Kentucky College of Dentistry in May 2008. He is in a two-year residency in the United States Army at Fort Bragg in Fayetteville, NC.

Anna-Jeannine Kemper and Justin Lee Herman were handfasted on June 21, 2008. She is a marketing associate and graphic designer for Life Skills Center, a charter school serving at-risk high school students. They reside in Akron, OH with their beagle, Rusty.

Gabby McWhorter is a dance therapist and behavioral therapist/consultant in a private clinic in Nashville, TN. She works with children who have autism and other diagnoses and with their families.

2005

Arwen Mills Careaga and her husband are enrolled in graduate studies in traditional Chinese medicine. They reside in San Diego, CA.

Birth: Isaiah Taylor Clark to **Cassandra "Cassie" Reynolds Clark** and Jeremy Clark on September 5, 2008. The family resides in Portsmouth, OH.

Jeffrey Hurt spent a year living in an integrated community with physically and mentally handicapped adults. He is working on a master's degree in translation and interpretation between Spanish, German, and English. He resides in Louisville, KY.

Married: **Izabela Luckiewicz** and David Bonté on June 15, 2008 in Bialystok, Poland. In attendance at the wedding were Bill Laramée, Berea College Vice President for Alumni and College Relations, **Monica Satkowski Laramée**, '77, **Katarina Kubesova**, '06, and **Kiril Traykov**, '06. Izabela is volunteering for humanitarian efforts. David is an administrator for the Belgium European Commission office in Cameroon, Africa where they reside.

2006

Married: **Carrie Watson** to **Bradley Fletcher** on August 2, 2008. They reside in Lexington, KY.

2007

Paloma Martinez is territory business manager for Valvoline, Division of Ashland Inc. in San Antonio, TX, where she resides.

Jessica Beaven Turner is owner of HomeGrown HideAways, an environmental education organization in Berea, KY where she resides.

2008

Margaret "Maggie" Greene is freelancing for *Kentucky Monthly Magazine* and interning at the *State Journal* in Frankfort, KY. She is attending cosmetology school at Paul Mitchell School in Louisville, KY this winter and later will pursue a master's degree in creative nonfiction at Murray State University.

Brenda Hornsby Heindl is earning a graduate degree through the Winterthur Program in American Material Culture at the Winterthur Museum and the University of Delaware. She resides in Winterthur, DE.

Caitlin Malone is a high school English teacher at San Juan Diego Catholic High School in Austin, TX where she resides.

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Anna-Jeannine Kemper, '04 and Justin Lee Herman



Katarina Kubesova, '06, Monica Satkowski Laramée, '77, Bill Laramée, Izabela Luckiewicz, '05, David Bonté and Kiril Traykov, '06

Passages

The "Passages" section of the *Berea College Magazine* honors Bereans who have passed away. If you know of a Berean who has died, please let the Alumni Association know by sending a copy of the obituary to CPO 2203, Berea, KY, 40404. Or you may e-mail diana_taylor@bereda.edu. We make every effort to put your information into the next issue. Due to printing schedules, some delays are typical. We appreciate your understanding. Please include the person's class year or connection to Berea, and the day and place of death.

Faculty & Staff

Virginia Auvil, '31 of Ashland, KY died October 2, 2008. She was registrar at Berea College until her retirement in 1976. She is survived by **Carl E. Auvil, '38**, her brother, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Carolyn Davis of Berea, KY passed away on October 16, 2008. She had been employed as President John Stephenson's housekeeper. Prior to that, Carolyn worked in Berea College's Food Service. She is survived by Kenton Davis her husband of 51 years.

1920s

Pauline Purkey Piraino, Cx'26 of Largo, FL died August 8, 2008. She is survived by Joseph P. Piraino, her son.

Oranell Sullivan Brasel, Cx'28 of Corbin, KY died March 16, 2006. She had taught school for many years. She is survived by Charlyne Rogers, Carolyn Enright, and Connie McHargue, her daughters.

1930s

Virginia Auvil, '31 of Ashland, KY died October 2, 2008. She was registrar at Berea College until her retirement in 1976. She is survived by **Carl E. Auvil, '38**, her brother, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Margaret Brannan Judy, '37 of Winston Salem, NC died September 13, 2008. She and her husband served as Methodist missionaries in Seoul, Wonju, and Chunchon, Korea. She worked in the areas of church music and religious education. She is survived by K. Wesley Judy, Carlene Judy, Joy Joss, and Esther Underwood, her children.

Wilbur H. "Ray" Rayburn, Acad'38 of Overland Park, KS died July 24, 2008. He was a retired products engineer at Conoco. He is survived by Mary Stewart Rayburn, his wife of almost 63 years.

1940s

Florine Wilson Marren, '40 of Charlotte, NC died August 31, 2008. She taught public school chorus and English for 32 years. She is survived by John Michael Marren and Anne Marren Hager, her children.

William "Bill" Letcher White, '41 of Naples, FL died August 30, 2008. He retired as director of market research for Swift & Co. in Chicago. He is survived by Jim White, his son.

Dr. Troy James Laswell, '42 of Starkville, MS died September 18, 2008. He was a US Army veteran of World War II and was department head and professor of geology and geography at Mississippi State from 1962–1985. He is survived by David M. Laswell, his son.

Laura Reynolds Rowlette, Cx'42 of Hamilton, OH died March 16, 2007. She is survived by James A. Rowlette and John D. Rowlette, her sons.

Sara Bussing Wassenberg Weingartner, '43 of Warrenton, VA died July 15, 2008. She retired as a high school teacher of language arts. She is survived by Mary Anne Wassenberg, Frank Joseph Weingartner, Nancy Elaine Weingartner, and James Laszlo Weingartner, her children.

Sheldon Louis "Cokie" Hymson, Navy V-12 '43-'44 of Lexington, KY died September 8, 2008. He was a US Navy

veteran of World War II and joined his brother in business at Hymson's Tots and Teens in Lexington, where he opened a shoe business. He is survived by Renee Aberson Hymson, his wife, and two daughters.

Joe K. Byrd, '45 of Drexel, NC died September 18, 2008. He was a US Army veteran of World War II and received a Bronze Star for missions behind enemy lines. He was an attorney who practiced for 40 years and retired as senior partner of the firm he established. He is survived by Gleta Harris Byrd, his wife of 61 years, and seven children.

David Marcus Haber, Navy V-12 '45-'46 of Woodland Hills, CA died August 29, 2006.

Florence Elam Christian, '46 of Odenton, MD died July 22, 2008. She was a dietician for the General Services Administration in Washington, DC early in her career. She taught school until her retirement. She was inducted into Maryland Citizens Hall of Fame in 2000 and received many recognitions for volunteer services. She is survived by Carla Christian Gillette and Valerie Christian Merchant, her daughters.

Peggy Hicks Jobe, '47 of Medina, OH died August 28, 2008. She retired in 1986 after more than 40 years of full-time teaching. She is survived by Steven Jobe, her son.

Orville Chester Helterbrand, Fd'48 of Morehead, KY died January 27, 2007.

Donn Edmund Jarrell, Acad'48 of San Antonio, TX died April 22, 2005. He worked with the VA hospital for nearly 25 years before retiring in 1992. He is survived by Maria Guermira Jarrell, his wife, and a son.

Helen Winfrey Cooley, '49 of Louisville, KY died October 5, 2005. She was a retired registered nurse. She is survived by Deborah King, Steve Cooley, and Phillip Cooley, her children.

Carol Anmuth Nemeier, Cx'49 of Ft. Lauderdale, FL died June 30, 2008. She had been a librarian with McGraw Hill Publishing Company, senior associate with Association of Book Publishers, and associate librarian of the Library of Congress. She also helped organize "Books Aboard." She is survived by Shel Nemeier, her husband of 58 years.

1950s

Nora Garrett Crawford, Cx'50 of Decatur, GA died September 19, 2008. She worked for three accounting firms in Atlanta—Sowell & Harden and Alexander Grant & Co., and Grant Thorton—before retiring in 1993. She is survived by Thomas E. Crawford, her husband, and three sons.

Jack Robert Hodge, '50 of Tarboro, NC died September 30, 2008. He was a US Navy veteran of WWII and retired Boy Scout executive. He is survived by **Nancy Stevenson Hodge, '50**, his wife of 61 years, and two sons.

Harold Nathan "Nate" Repair, '50 of Glasgow, VA died September 4, 2008. He was a US Navy veteran of WWII. He retired in 1986 from Rutgers Cooperative Extension as professor emeritus from Rutgers University. He operated an agricultural consulting business until the time of his death. He is survived by **Cecilia Stalnaker Repair, '48**, his wife of 61 years, a son, and a daughter.

William T. Cooley, '51 of Louisville, KY died June 4, 2008. He was a retired lab director with more than 30 years of service for Baptist Hospital. He is survived by Deborah King, Steve Cooley, and Phillip Cooley, his children.

Rosemary Robertson Rudd, '52 of Lexington, KY died September 11, 2008. She was a homemaker and retired registered nurse. She is survived by Vicki Lynn Reynolds, Tony Lewis Rudd, and Jacki Gail Rudd, her children.

Hazel King, Fd'53 of Everts, KY died June 20, 2007. She is survived by Florence Wynn, her sister.

Bill K. Richardson, '56 of Lewisville, TX died September 6, 2008. He was a US Navy veteran of World War II. He enjoyed helping disabled people and researching ways to improve their lives with rehabilitation. He spent nearly 20 years of his long career in teaching and research at the University of North Texas. He is survived by Joan Richardson, his wife, and two daughters.

Phyllis Durham Bunch, Cx'57 of Columbia, TN died August 30, 2008. She was a nurse and found her true calling at Hospice of the Highland Rim, where she dedicated numerous hours to her patients. She is survived by Mel Bunch, her husband, two daughters, and a son.

Edith Wood Puckett, Cx'58 of Lakeland, FL died August 25, 2008. She was a substitute teacher, housewife, and school volunteer. She is survived by Karen Merritt, Sheila McElwee, and Alan Puckett, her children.

1960s

Ralph Leon Dawson, Cx'60 of Crum, WV died August 24, 2008. He was an educator for more than 43 years, chairman of the Crum Public Service District, and co-owner of Crum Pizza House. He is survived by Ima Jean Ward Dawson, his wife, and three sons.

Jean Carolyn Allen Walko, '61 of Richmond, KY died September 22, 2008. She had served as director of nursing in Manchester, KY, assistant director of nursing at the University of Kentucky, and a professor at Eastern Kentucky University College of Nursing. She is survived by Robert G. Walko, her husband, her mother, four brothers, and one sister.

J. Doug Barnes, '62 of Murphy, NC died July 23, 2008. He was general foreman of Coats American in Marble until he retired to pursue a life of woodturning. He was president of the Brasstown Woodturners Guild for many years and was the resident artist in woodturning at the John C. Campbell Folk School. He is survived by Marsha Lyn Barnes, his wife of 43 years.

Linda Lee Hodges, '62 of Fort Myers Beach, FL died July 26, 2008. She had taught in Tennessee and Florida. She is survived by Pat Shely, her friend and companion.

Imogene Gallagher Scalos, Fd'63 of Lexington, KY died August 16, 2008. She was a retired nursing assistant. She is survived by her husband, **James Nicholas Scalos, Fd '62**, and two daughters.

1970s

Michael Lee Davis, '76 of Lawrenceburg, KY died October 1, 2008. He was owner of Future Insulation Systems, Inc. in Lexington for 22 years. He is survived by **Vicky Seals Davis, '74**, his wife of 34 years, and two sons.

1980s

Laura Beth Wren, Cx'86 of Hearne, TX died March 7, 2007. She was a homemaker and had worked for the day care center at Central Baptist Church. She is survived by Jack Wren, her husband, three sons, and three daughters.

1990s

Maxine Smith Kessler, Hon'90 of Edmond, OK died August 16, 2008. She was the widow of **John Kessler, LTCR, USNR, Navy V-12 '43-'44**, the first executive officer of the Berea College Navy V-12 unit, and chairman emeritus of Berea College Navy V-12/V-5 Memorial Scholarship Fund Executive Committee. She and her husband were constant sources of inspiration and encouragement to the men of Navy V-12/V-5 beginning in 1943 up until their deaths. She is survived by Paul Kessler, Ned Kessler, and Christine Kessler Chenoweth, her children.



Joe K. Byrd, '45



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Abigail Cohen, '10, holds the Berea College women's record in pole vaulting.
Photo by O'Neil Arnold, '85

The winter ice storm that abruptly ended Short Term 2009 caused massive power outages, the loss of many trees, and damage from fallen limbs and shear line winds. The downed trees were recycled. The logs that were suitable for lumber went to the Technology Department and were milled for re-use. The SENS house and community received free firewood and the rest was chipped for mulch for the College grounds and gardens.

