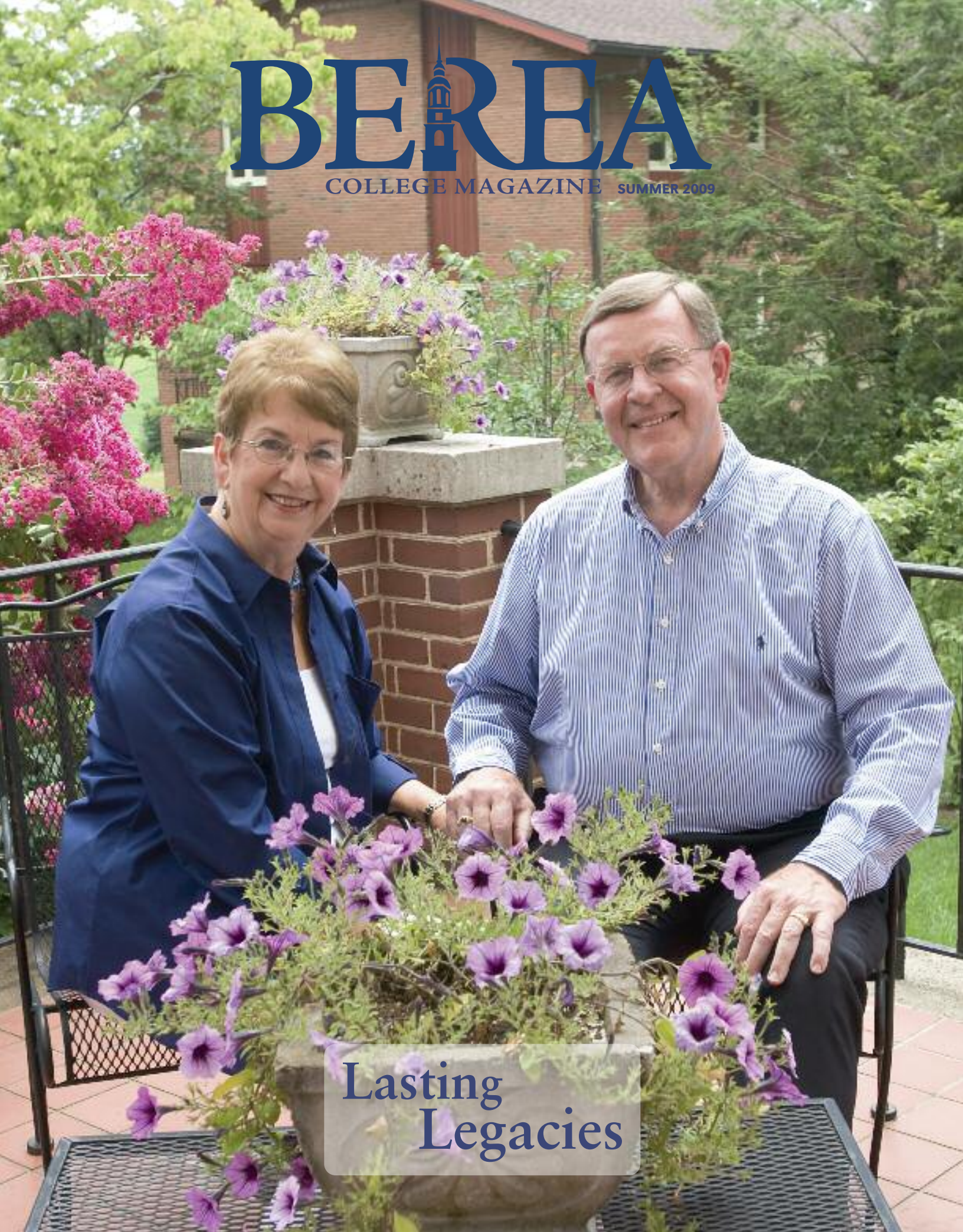


BEREA

COLLEGE MAGAZINE SUMMER 2009



Lasting
Legacies



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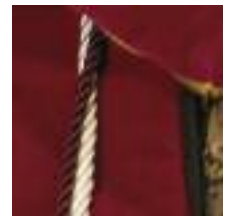
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Student Editor: Deb McIntyre, '10

Contributing Writers: Jay Buckner, Joshua Burczyk, '11, Libby Kahler, '11, LeAnna Kaiser, '12, Monica Leslie, '12, Michael Lorrus, '09, Deb McIntyre, '10, Julie Sowell, Megan Smith, '11, Morgan Smith, '12, Jacques Turner, '11

Front Cover: Nancy and President Larry Shinn, O'Neil Arnold, '85
Inside Front Cover: Eric Johnson, '09, O'Neil Arnold, '85
Back Cover: O'Neil Arnold, '85

BEREA COLLEGE MAGAZINENormandi Ellis, **Editor**William A. Laramée, **Vice President,
Alumni and College Relations**Timothy W. Jordan, '76, **Director, Public Relations**Mae Suramek, '95, **Director, Alumni Relations****Correspondence and Reprints**

If you have comments, questions, or suggestions for the *Berea College Magazine*, or would like information about reprinting any article appearing in the magazine, please contact:

Normandi Ellis
Editor, *Berea College Magazine*
Berea College
CPO 2142
Berea KY 40404
or e-mail normandi_ellis@bereda.edu

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SERVICE****Web:** www.berea.edu**E-mail:** mae_suramek@bereda.edu**Mail:** CPO 2203
Berea, KY 40404**Phone:** 859.985.3104
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We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future.

— George Bernard Shaw

For what do you want to be remembered?

In many ways the question lies at the heart of every alumni publication. Within these pages we come to know each other and share our joys, accomplishments, passions, and memories. The summer issue of the *Berea College Magazine* is sure to remind the reader of that first moment of adult accomplishment—graduation from one of the finest liberal arts schools in America. The graduating students we feature here committed themselves to four years (sometimes more) of hard work and study. Now, they align themselves to a future that is uncertain, a future that is no cakewalk and will likely require from them the kind of resilience they learned while working in the labor program at Berea College. Our students do the jobs that need to be done, and they do it well and work to serve others through their heads, hearts, and hands.

This year marks the fifteenth year of Dr. Larry Shinn's presidency at Berea College. Such a milestone provides an opportunity to look back as well as forward, particularly as the College adjusts to the new financial climate. An interview with the president allows a peek into the man and how he sees his work at Berea (p. 24). Readers also gain a view into the distant past through a look at the memorabilia of Abraham Lincoln that is housed in the College archives and around campus. We celebrate the learning community of faculty scholars as well, especially the faculty who received awards at commencement (p. 13). Of special note is the current National Endowment for the Humanities Chair in Appalachian Studies, Dr. William Turner, an African American Appalachian who is gaining national recognition (p. 19).

Consider that as alumni, faculty, staff, students, and friends, we all share the task of making Berea College the incredible institution that it is and has been for more than a century and a half. The College has committed itself to educating the brightest students with the greatest financial need. If you graduated from Berea College, you can count yourself among the best-educated people in the country. If you are receiving this magazine, you realize that it costs you nothing. We send it with our compliments because the College wants to stay in touch with all of its friends and alumni. But, if any one of its stories in the last year or two has moved you, if you recognized a family member, a colleague, or a friend, please consider sending a donation to the College in honor of that person.

Let this be your Johnny Appleseed moment. Twenty dollars from every reader would equal more than one million dollars invested in lives that, 15-20 years from now, hold promise as the leaders and change-makers of tomorrow. To those of you who have already generously given, we thank you for being a part of Berea College's continuing legacy.

Normandi Ellis



To all those who saw the error on the Spring 09 *Berea College Magazine* back cover: Indeed, the saguaro cacti grow in the Sonora Desert in Arizona—not in New Mexico. We stand corrected!

Dear Fellow Bereans and Friends:

It is never an easy moment at a college when a financial crisis sets off personnel and program cutbacks. The dire financial news and the College's initial projections for the economic downturn proved to be more challenging than anticipated. In response, Berea College is doing what it has always done—serving the region and, ultimately, securing the nation's future by educating the brightest and most financially at-risk students.

Berea provides a tuition-free, liberal arts education for students from Appalachia and beyond, for those of all gender, race, and ethnicity, and for those who serve others and uphold the Christian ideals on which this College was founded. Berea College has done so for 154 years, and it will do so in the years that follow.

Of course, the lack of tuition as an income source is part of Berea's promise to students that now places it in a position more vulnerable than other collegiate institutions. Berea relies upon its endowment for more than 75 percent of its operating budget. Even with a better-than-market performance, the plunges in the world financial market have a particularly devastating impact on the College's funding model.

To prepare for the endowment's drop in income expected to arrive two years from now, the College announced a hiring moratorium this spring and reduced its education and operating budget in 2009-10 by \$2.5 million. In a budget where employee salaries, wages, and benefits make up over 70 percent of expenses, only \$0.8 million came from controllable expenses. The reduction of 30 full-time positions accounted for the other \$1.7 million. Of these 30 full-time positions, only 9 were currently filled. Another 9 part-time positions were eliminated; only 3 were filled.

In the meantime, the Administrative Committee must find additional revenue and/or budget reductions of \$2 million for 2010-11. These will include reductions in travel budgets, benefits, student internships, computer technology services, sabbaticals, and subsidized business areas that are not part of Berea's core educational program. Every effort is being made to use restricted funds, where possible, to provide relief to the operating budget.

Finally, there will need to be additional position reductions. The College administrative structure and capabilities grew in the mid-1990s when times were good. Now, programs and offices will have to be reduced to respond to the current crises. The College believes it can reduce its staff and programs selectively and retain an effective Berea College learning community, but the dislocation of current employees has been a cause of concern. Clearly, the level of reductions required and the complex nature of a residential campus creates a complicated process of restructuring.

These anticipated \$4-million-plus reductions in 2010 and 2011 budgets will bring Berea only halfway to its final goal. An additional \$5-6 million budget reduction may be required for 2012. President Shinn asked Dean of Faculty Stephanie Browner to lead a Scenario Planning Taskforce (SPT) to develop viable scenario alternatives for a more streamlined Berea by October 1, 2009. The SPT has been charged to develop various scenarios that maintain the core mission of Berea College—charge no tuition and do so with financial resources reduced by 25 percent. The key to these scenarios must be a vision of what our core academic programs and degrees will be.

In 1930 amid a similar national economic crisis, President William J. Hutchins said of the College: "We have a ship which has proved seaworthy, we have our chart and compass, we have a cargo infinitely precious, we are making headway. But these days and the days ahead are days of shifting weather, of storm, and stress."

The College will weather this storm, as it weathered the Great Depression 80 years ago during the Hutchins era. We have a compass in our Great Commitments and a strategic plan. At the end of its academic and fiscal year, the College still celebrates its work together and the bonds of community that allow it to face an uncertain future with hope and continued passion for the uncommon mission that is Berea College.



Robert Stafford

Sincerely,
Robert Stafford, '89
2008-09 Past President
Alumni Executive Council

Around Campus

O'Neil Arnold, '85



College presidents James Ramsey, Larry Shinn, Lee Todd, and John Roush discussed sustainability efforts among learning institutions at the third Energizing Kentucky conference in April 2009.

Third Energizing Kentucky Conference Focuses on Education

President Larry Shinn joined presidents James Ramsey (University of Louisville), Lee Todd (University of Kentucky), and John Roush (Centre College) in hosting the third Energizing Kentucky conference. Participants at the conference, held in April in Lexington, discussed the initiatives that can be taken to deal with the energy challenges facing Kentucky and the role that education about energy production, consumption, and conservation can play in support of energy-saving initiatives.

Two breakout sessions focused on (1) ways in which community agencies and energy-wise colleges and universities may partner to model sustainable energy use and (2) how energy education and sustainability issues can be taught in Kentucky public schools and at colleges and universities.

Carol Browner, assistant to President Obama for Energy and Climate Change, presented the policies that the President supports to reduce climate change and instill energy independence. Leonard Peters, Secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet for Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear, provided an overview of the governor's energy plan.

Berea College Hosts National Symposium on Work and Learning

Following May commencement, a national symposium entitled "Work and Learning in Higher Education in the 21st Century" occurred on campus. Funded by the Work Colleges Consortium (WCC) and a grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the symposium investigated practical applications of integrating student labor and service within the undergraduate liberal arts experience. Sessions included models on work-learning, assessing work-learning, and transitioning from college to the world of work.

Keynote speakers included David Sawyer of Context Consulting and Bill Coplin of Syracuse University. More than 70 individuals from across the nation joined 17 Berea faculty and staff for the event. Fifteen institutions, in addition to the WCC colleges, brought three-person teams that included presidents, vice presidents, work directors, and career development staff.

The symposium was planned, developed, and organized by Berea College President Larry Shinn, vice president of labor and student life Gail Wolford, dean of

labor David Tipton, '73, WCC executive director Robin Taffler, and WCC assistant Brenda Boggs.

Berea College, along with the other members of the WCC, hosted the event. The WCC is the only federally recognized association of colleges with comprehensive student work programs. The WCC schools include: Alice Lloyd College, Berea College, Blackburn College, College of the Ozarks, Ecclesia College, Sterling College, and Warren Wilson College.

International Carillonners Ring in Summer Concert Series

Carillon performers from around the world offered Bereans one-of-a-kind performances during the 2009 summer concert series. With the help of the music department, a series of free, one-hour concerts took place monthly on Draper Tower's 56-bell carillon—the largest in the state of Kentucky.

In June, Jonathan Lehrer, carillonneur of *Cast in Bronze* at Renaissance festivals, performed music from Baroque to contemporary and a set of three dances. He was a finalist in an international competition in Belgium in 2008, and his Berea program featured John Courter's *Soliloquy*, composed for the competition.

In July, Lvsitanvs carillon duo, Ana and Sara Elias, brought to Berea sounds from their native Portugal as well as tunes ranging from Metallica ballads to Disney songs. Berea College carillonneur John Courter performed in August. His program included a Suite on Edgar Allen Poe's poem *The Bells* and music by Barber and Menotti. A Labor Day concert by Steven Ball, carillonneur of the University of Michigan, is also scheduled.



Seating was provided in the College quadrangle. A video monitor at ground level gave a glimpse of the musician in action.

Carillonneur Jonathan Lehrer kicked off Berea's summer outdoor concert series.

Heard Around Campus

We were always intergenerational before it was a word people talked about.



Tyler Costello, '09

Neil DiTeresa, professor of art "His Paintings and Puppets" Appalachian Center Dinner on the Grounds, April 2009

We create stewardship by creating value. ...We want people to walk the field, to taste, to touch, to smell, and to build a relationship with their food.



Damian Buttle, '11

Joel Salatin, farmer and author "Healing the Land, the Food, the Economy, and the Culture" convocation, April 2009

We will continue to fail [at stopping genocide] unless we change these three things: protection, political will, and permanency. ...The U.S. continues to talk about "never again," but never does anything to prevent it from happening again. The only way we will get "never again" to mean anything is to get political.



Mark Hanis, executive director of Genocide Intervention Network "Darfur and Beyond: What You Can Do to Stop Genocide" convocation, April 2009

Appalachian Heritage Event Honors Poet Jim Wayne Miller

In June, Jim Wayne Miller, '58, was honored by *Appalachian Heritage*, the literary quarterly sponsored through the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center. Miller, a pioneer in Appalachian literature and studies, was former Kentucky poet laureate and the featured author of the Summer 2009 issue of *Appalachian Heritage*.

He was honored posthumously during the campus author celebration, a quarterly event that annually coincides with the College's summer alumni reunion. For this celebration, the panelists were Miller's wife, Mary Ellen Miller, '57, who directs women's studies and is professor of English at Western Kentucky University; their son, Frederic S. Miller of Louisville, the featured artist for the summer issue; Loyal Jones, '54, director emeritus of the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center; and Morris A. Grubbs of the University of Kentucky, a prominent editor who is working with Mary Ellen Miller on a Jim Wayne Miller reader.



Jim Wayne Miller

Arbor Day Volunteers Replace Damaged Trees

The grounds crew of Berea College's facilities management hosted an Arbor Day tree planting on April 9. With the help of volunteers, 20 new oaks, maples, and other flowering trees were planted on campus to replace those trees that were destroyed during two summer droughts and this winter's ice storm.

"The last couple of years have been tough on some of the larger trees on campus," said grounds coordinator Matthew Partain. "The grounds team feels that it is important not only to renew a Berea College tradition of Arbor Day recognition and tree planting, but to give the students, faculty, and staff a chance to participate and learn in the process."



Damian Buttle, '11

Student workers Patricia Stephens, '11 and Mason Roberts, '11, assist groundskeeper Joe Wilkie, '90, in planting trees on Arbor Day. Cameron Gaunt, '11, and groundskeeper Jeffrey Linville, look on.

Five Track Athletes Compete at Nationals



DeMarcus Clinton, '09

Five Berea athletes traveled to Ralph Korte Stadium in Edwardsville, Illinois to compete in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics National Outdoor Track and Field Championship meet on May 21-23. Annie Dillon, '09, threw the javelin 40.40 meters to place 10th in the nation. Caitlin Ambrose, '10, finished 11th in the 3000-meter racewalk in 18.32.62 minutes and received the honor of scholar athlete. A 13.90 meter triple jump placed Kareem Holden, '09, 13th in the nation. Also competing were, Letisha Hemanes, '09, in the 100-meter with a time of 12.63 seconds and Lucas Warner, '12, in the 5000-meter racewalk.

Kareem Holden's long jump placed him 13th in the nation.



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Energy collected from the Appalachian Center's solar array reduces the center's reliance on coal-generated electricity.

Appalachian Center Goes Solar

In March, Berea College's Loyal Jones Appalachian Center installed a 15,000-watt photovoltaic collection system. The 66-panel system, funded largely by a grant from the Anne Ray Charitable Trust, began producing electricity on March 13. The solar panels will assist in powering the Center and offices located in the Bruce building. The installation contributes to the College's goal of meeting 10 percent of its energy needs through renewable sources by 2010.

Environmental preservation of the region is one focus of the Appalachian Center, and a major goal has been to meet the center's energy needs through renewable resources. "Seeing the destructive effects of reliance upon fossil fuels, we feel compelled to model a policy committed to clean, renewable energy," says center director Chad Berry.

Inside the center, the "Energy and Appalachia" exhibit teaches visitors about the relationship among energy use, lifestyle, resource extraction, and Appalachian communities. The exhibit includes a monitoring device that indicates periodic outputs of solar energy captured and used, and it shows the volume of greenhouse gases averted through the use of renewable energy.

Exploring the Sounds of Appalachia

Seven scholars received Appalachian sound archives fellowships to research traditional Appalachian music in the Hutchins Library Archives for heritage and interdisciplinary projects.

Earlier in the academic year, technology and industrial arts professor Alan Mills created a slide show, music library, and presentation to support the Appalachian Crafts course he taught. Christine Kuhn, '87, of Lexington, Kentucky explored Appalachian music, history, visual images, and artifacts. Her exhibition of paintings, to be installed in Hutchins Library in October 2009, includes archival audio that uses themes of Appalachian spirituality and cultural heritage.

In May, two fellows concluded their projects. Anna Roberts-Gevalt explored the lives and music of Kentucky women fiddlers by transcribing their tunes, conducting field interviews, and searching for additional recordings to expand their narratives and musical stories. Jacob Podber continued his research on the importance of country music radio programming and how Appalachian music contributed to the region's identity.

In May, journalist Jim Carrier worked on a documentary on the racial history of the banjo, focusing on its history, music, and styles in Appalachia. Award-winning poet Marianne Worthington continued work on her manuscript *Knoxville Girl*. She studied the lives of female singers in Kentucky and analyzed the words and music of murder ballads. Writer, musician, and storyteller Paula Larke, the first African American Appalachian archives fellow, gathered materials for school-based musical presentations that tell stories based on the lives of her grandfathers. Her project began in the spring and concluded this summer.

The fellowships were funded through the Anne Ray Charitable Trust.



Appalachian fellow Anna Roberts-Gevalt (banjo) and accompanist Carol O'Brien (mandolin) joined Appalachian fellow Paula Larke (guitar) during a presentation in Hutchins Library.

Roy Puckett, '11

Popular Magazines Highlight Berea

Berea has received plenty of national media attention in the last year. Recently, the popular alternative magazine *Mental Floss* highlighted eight colleges that provide tuition-free education, including Berea. *The Wall Street Journal* ran with the same article in May. *Time* magazine also featured Berea and interviewed associate provost Joe Bagnoli, '88, in its article "Deci\$ion\$: How One College Snags So Many Students." The *Mental Floss* article appears on its website: <http://blogs.static.mentalfloss.com/blogs/archives/22573.html>.

News from Faculty, Staff & Trustees

326 Years of Service Celebrated

Ten staff and three faculty members retired this year after providing the College with more than three centuries of service.

Retiring staff include: Dewey Allen, woodcraft (36 years); Donald Anglin, woodcraft (21 years); Joyce Ballard, financial affairs (30 years); Mary Beth Bevins, '69, Seabury Center (22 years); Maurice Davidson, '69, facilities management (19 years); Debbie Duerson-Swinford, student services (17 years); Kristy Marchant, educational talent search (17 years); Albert Rose, facilities management (39 years); Rosette Salins, college relations (28 years); and Darlene Stout, campus post office (10 years). Retiring faculty include: John Bolin, English and theatre (39 years); Atossa Kramer, music (34 years); and Gordon McKinney, history (14 years).

In addition to the retirees, the positions of nine other employees were eliminated as part of the College's reduction in force due to the current economic downturn. Their contributions have been equally valuable and their presence will be missed.



Retirees included Dewey Allen, Kristy Marchant, Gordon McKinney, Donald Anglin, Mary Beth Bevins, '60, Darlene Stout, Albert Rose, Maurice Davidson, Atossa Kramer, and John Bolin. President Larry Shinn thanked all the employees for their dedicated service.

Chow Joins Berea College Board of Trustees



David H. Chow

The Berea College Board of Trustees selected David H. Chow, of Westport, Connecticut, as its newest member. The founder and CEO of consulting firm DanCourt Management began his six-year term in May.

Chow offers 20 years of experience in equity investing and high-yield capital markets. He has served as general partner and committee member at Horizon Partners and worked as lead advisor to the CEO and Board of Pacific Exchange. Chow has been a chartered financial analyst since 1987 and serves as chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Market Vectors group of Exchange Traded Funds.

He holds an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College.

DiTeresa Puppets Inspired Thousands

This summer, The Loyal Jones Appalachian Center Gallery displayed art professor Neil DiTeresa's paintings, inspired by living in Kentucky and the puppets made by his students who were members of A Summer Puppetry Caravan for Appalachia.

Neil founded the College cultural outreach program 25 years ago with grants from the Rockefeller Foundation. Later, additional funding included the Jim Henson Muppet Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the E.O. Robinson Fund, and others, including generous local support. More than 150 Berea College students through the labor program worked on organizing, making puppets, writing scripts, and performing, and they taught weekly workshops for participants of all ages.

Their collective audience numbered more than a quarter of a million people, and workshop puppets added up to more than 8,000.

Hackbert Shares His Expertise

Peter Hackbert, co-director of the College's Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG) program, was guest speaker at the Southern Kentucky Inventors and Innovations Council in May. His presentation on the "One Page Business Plan" was one of many topics he shares with national academic and industry conference audiences regarding enterprise growth and planning, creativity, opportunity recognition, marketing strategies, "live case" study procedures, and entrepreneurial practices.

His current interest lies in emerging growth companies and new product/service development in Appalachia. Hackbert joined the Berea faculty in 2007 and holds the William and Kay Moore Chair in Entrepreneurship and Management.



Peter Hackbert

Perry Is Outstanding Forest Steward

Each year the Kentucky Division of Forestry presents top awards for the management of natural resources. This year, Berea College forester John Perry was a state finalist for Outstanding Forest Steward.

Perry owns and manages a 150-acre farm in Hart County. He is a member of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association, the Kentucky American Chestnut Foundation Board, the Kentucky Best Management Practices Board, the Kentucky Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee, and the advisory committee to the Kentucky Agriculture Water Quality Act. He founded and served as the first chair for the Kentucky Association of Consulting Foresters and chaired the Kentucky tree farm committee from 1997-99. He has been a certified state forest steward since 1998, and his farm has held certified tree farm status since 1982.

■ BUILDING BERE—*Extending the Legacy*

What's in a Name?

Loyal Jones Appalachian Center and Willis Weatherford Campus Christian Center Honor the Commitments of Two Loyal Bereans

By Monica Leslie, '12

Individuals from the Berea community and beyond gathered on May 2 in the warmth of Union Church to celebrate the renaming of two of Berea's most influential campus centers. The event featured performances by Bereans who have been connected with the Appalachian Center and the Campus Christian Center at the College. Billy Edd Wheeler, '55, the Rev. Lee Morris, and the Berea College Bluegrass Ensemble all gave heartfelt and soulful performances and "preachments" before the unveiling of two plaques commemorating the rechristening event. This was followed by remarks from President Larry Shinn, Loyal Jones, '54, and Anne (Mrs. Willis D.) Weatherford.

Previously, the Board of Trustees voted to rename the centers when David O. Welch, '55, a member of the Board, made the recommendation that the centers be rededicated in honor of Loyal Jones and Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. In passing the resolutions, the Board of Trustees cited the exceptional accomplishments each individual had made in connection with these centers.



Kara Beth Brunner, '89

Loyal Jones, founding director of the Appalachian Center, which was recently renamed in his honor, entertains the crowd of well-wishers with a few recollections.

The Appalachian Center, now known as the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center, was renamed in a dedication ceremony honoring Jones' contributions. A renowned Appalachian scholar, Jones was the director of the center from 1970-93. He has dedicated his entire professional life to Appalachia and was the founding director of the Center, the first of its kind in the United States. He is also a founding member of the Appalachian Studies Association. President

Shinn described Jones' contributions to the Berea community and the impact he has had in generating more positive perceptions of the art, history, values, and culture within Appalachia, stating, "Loyal has long been a passionate voice of this region."

The Campus Christian Center, now known as the Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. Campus Christian Center, was also renamed to commemorate the late Willis D. Weatherford. Dr. Weatherford served as Berea College's sixth president from 1967-84 and was responsible for the creation of the Campus Christian Center. According to President Shinn, Weatherford worked with The Lilly Foundation to secure the support and endowment for the Campus Christian Center, its staff, and the Eli Lilly Chair of Religion. Shinn said that it was Weatherford's belief that "education should result not only in knowledge, but also in moral compassion. By establishing the Campus Christian Center, Weatherford sought to place Berea's inclusive Christian ideals at the heart of the intellectual life of the College."

These centers reflect two of Berea College's eight Great Commitments: 1) teaching more inclusive Christianity consistent with the vision of its founder, John G. Fee, and 2) promoting the education of the Appalachian region and its culture. The work of these centers, as well as of those men responsible for their establishment, has done more than enrich the life of the Berea community. The impact of these vital programs, instilled in Berea's graduates, can be felt throughout the Appalachian region and the wider world.



Kara Beth Brunner, '89

President Shinn joined Anne Weatherford and her extended family during the renaming and dedication of the Willis Weatherford Campus Christian Center, which honors the former president's contributions through academic and Christian leadership.

Re-opened Boone Tavern Makes a Grand Entrance into the 21st Century

By Megan Smith, '11

More than 200 guests attended the grand re-opening gala at the Historic Boone Tavern Hotel on May 21st. A blue and gold archway of balloons, along with a whisper of violin strings, welcomed special guests to College Square.

Inside the hotel, light from candles and energy-efficient skylights glistened along the curves of ice statues as guests snacked on samples from the historic Boone Tavern kitchen and strolled through the dining room, conference rooms, and lobbies. They walked among historical re-enactors seemingly frozen in time as they were checking in at the front desk, playing Bridge in a lounge, or attending a wedding reception in the Skylight Room. Life-sized cardboard figures of notable visitors and individuals associated with the hotel during the past 100 years included Eleanor Frost, the Dalai Lama, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

With recent renovations, Boone Tavern has now become a leader in green renovation for hotels throughout Kentucky. The 100-year-old structure is expected to become Kentucky's first hotel to receive the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification.

The renovations allowed the College's values of preserving Appalachian culture and natural resources, and its contemporary commitment to sustainability, to come full circle. Kicking off the grand reopening were David Shelton, '69, Berea College chair of the Board of Trustees; city of Berea Mayor Steven Connelly, '74; and Deborah Cannon, president of Cornerstone USA, Boone Tavern's management company. An invocation was given by campus minister Randy Osborne, '95.

President Shinn's welcoming remarks carried guests on a journey through the history of Boone Tavern and its renovations. He mentioned many of the notable patrons who

lodged at Boone Tavern, including: Henry Ford, Eleanor Roosevelt, Duncan Hines, Alex Haley, Jesse Stuart, Robert Frost, Red Foley, Maya Angelou, Thornton Wilder, Wallace Nutting, and Governor and Mrs. Lawrence Wetherby. Following his remarks, 11 people, including the keynote speakers, trustees, and city officials, cut the ribbon extended across the new portico and entrance on the east side of the Tavern.

The gala event also recognized the numerous donors who helped make the \$10 million, year-long project possible. Special recognition was given to donors whose contributions made possible the renovation of designated public spaces. The Jim and Ann Bowling dining room was provided by contributions recognizing two former trustees: Ann Bowling (2001-07) and Jim Bowling (1968-97). The Robinson Room was renovated through contributions by Helen (Hedy) Swanson Robinson, '49; and the Coyle Gathering Room was a gift from Marty Coyle, a College trustee (1989-2008). Boone Tavern's kitchen was renovated by donations from Gaynell S. Fowler in memory of F. Boyd Fowler, '37. A donation from Berea College trustee Tyler Thompson, '83, from 2003-09, Frances Thompson, and the Thompson family provided for the renovation of the Lincoln Parlor.

Renovations of guest rooms were underwritten by Nancy E. Blair, Esq.; Helena Jacobs Mink, '51; and Judge B. Wilson II, '78. Other donors, recognized as Friends of Boone Tavern for supporting the project included: M. Elizabeth Culbreth, '64; Delta Natural Gas; C. Ronald Fouts, '72; the Shawn C.D. Johnson family; Katherine W. Long; Alice Manicur, '54; Larry and Nancy Shinn; Caleb Howard Todd and Sarah Elizabeth Allen Todd; and John Vanderstar.

To learn more about Historic Boone Tavern Hotel, to view photos of the grand re-opening event, to make a reservation, or to watch the youtube video, visit: www.boonetavernhotel.com



Chris Hayes, '06

Graduates greet family and friends



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Abednego Vundi, his child, and President Shinn



Chris Hayes, '06

Kelly Broulliet and Samantha Buchanan



Chris Hayes, '06

Harold Burdette and Wesley Bunton

GRADUATION 2009

Tatum and Leonard Inspire Graduates toward Hope and Action

Beverly Daniel Tatum, president of Spelman College, urged Berea College graduates to “be the leader you are waiting for. No matter what you do, you are making history,” she said. “Choose the history you want to make. Be hopeful, but more than that, translate your hope into purposeful action.”



Beverly Daniel Tatum

Speaking at Berea College’s 137th commencement on May 24, 2009, Tatum addressed 212 graduating seniors. In turn, Tatum received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from

Berea. A clinical psychologist by training, she holds a master’s degree in religious studies from Hartford Seminary and master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan. *Georgia Trend* magazine recently named her one of Georgia’s most influential people. Her academic best-sellers include: *Can We Talk about Race? And Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation* (2007); *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? And Other Conversations About Race* (1997); and *Assimilation Blues: Black Families in a White Community* (1987).

During the ceremony, four College faculty and staff were recognized for their work. Dr. Janice Blythe, professor of child and family studies, received Berea’s highest faculty honor, the Seabury Award for Excellence in Teaching. Blythe holds master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Kentucky. Dr. Katrina

Rivers Thompson, professor of child and family studies, and Edward McCormack, professor of business, shared this year’s Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising. Mary Ann Shupe, theatre lab costumer and costume shop supervisor, received the Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for Community Service for her volunteer work as a designer and seamstress to the service of many community organizations.

Three graduating seniors achieved distinguished honors. The Hilda Welch Wood Award for outstanding achievement by a female student went to Morgan Adams, an English major from Lexington, Kentucky. The T.J. Wood Award for outstanding achievement was given to two male graduates—Matthew Bailey, from the Letcher County community of Isom, Kentucky, and Hung Tran of Hanoi, Vietnam. Bailey received a degree in physics and Tran majored in economics and mathematics.



Bill Leonard

Earlier that morning, baccalaureate speaker Rev. Dr. Bill Leonard, ordained Baptist minister and religion professor at Wake Forest, and dean of the Divinity School, recounted for

graduates the importance of wrestling with issues of faith, as Jacob wrestled with a stranger (Genesis 32). There are no easy answers, he said. “We are all wrestling with something. ...Cling to faith, hope, and conscience until they bless you. And as you wrestle, know this: even in the darkness there is grace, now and forevermore.”

Blythe Earns Distinguished Seabury Award

By Morgan Smith '12



Dr. Janice Blythe accepts her Seabury Award from Dean of Faculty Stephanie Browner.



Blythe embraces Dr. Katrina Rivers Thompson after her acceptance.

It wasn't exactly a straight line from a childhood spent on a Garrard County, Kentucky farm to becoming a well-respected professor at Berea College. In fact, as a child, Janice Burdette Blythe never thought she would be a teacher. She didn't believe she had the patience to teach and didn't know what she would do if a student asked a question that she could not answer.

Now, this year's recipient of the Seabury Award for Excellence in Teaching, the highest award given to a faculty member, is grateful for the opportunity to combine her knowledge of food, her agricultural background, and her desire to help others through her career as a child and family studies professor.

Janice earned her bachelor's degree in dietetics from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU). She then went on to earn her master's degree in clinical nutrition and her doctorate in animal science from the University of Kentucky.

She was working at the Lexington Clinic as a registered dietitian when Dr. Effie Creamer, '54, convinced Janice to veer from her intended career path in dietetics practice and research. Looking back, it is a decision Janice does not regret. "In 33 years of teaching, I've learned not only how to teach, but I've become a more experienced learner myself," she says. Janice enjoys working at a liberal arts college because she believes that "teaching should promote the formulation of more questions and some answers."

After teaching at ECU for 10 years, Janice joined Berea College in 1986 as the incoming chair of the Department of Child and Family Studies. Janice also has served as associate provost for advising and academic success, and as resident nutritionist for Berea College Health

Services. In 2004 she was awarded the Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising. Janice regularly teaches consumer decision-making and community nutrition classes.

Janice devotes her time to raising awareness about food issues and taking steps to help people in the local community. Recently, her service-learning classes partnered with Berea Community Food Bank and Berea Health Ministries to ensure that food gets to local people who need it. She advocates service-learning on campus and has served as a member of the service-learning advisory committee, a group of students, faculty, and community partners who provide leadership for the College's service-learning program. Ashley Cochrane, associate director of the Center for Excellence in Learning through Service, believes that the way in which Janice teaches "sets a high standard for service-learning at Berea College."

When she isn't teaching, Janice enjoys several hobbies, ranging from playing piano in church to tending her garden of potted plants. An excellent cook, she is known for bringing the healthy food to potluck dinners. Janice's wide variety of interests allows her to take her teaching in many different directions. This provides her students with the opportunity to make broader connections and become better problem solvers.

As it turns out, Janice's initial reasons for not becoming a teacher haven't been a problem at all. "My students have taught me patience," she explains. Instead of worrying about students with difficult questions, Janice has come to understand that she cannot always give students the answer; she can only help them uncover it.



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Business professor Ed McCormack

Two Take Top Advising Award

Ed McCormack, professor of business, and Katrina Rivers Thompson, professor of child and family studies, shared this year's Paul C. Hager Award for Excellence in Advising. These professors, nominated by students, have excelled in their roles of helping students negotiate the academic process, providing them with individual opportunities and unique perspectives, mentoring them, and listening with keen attention.

This award is especially meaningful for Ed McCormack, who recalls Paul Hager, for whom the award was named, as a good friend and mentor when Ed began his career at Berea in 1982. "It is

especially rewarding," Ed says, "to have my students, who are such amazing young people, to think enough of my work to nominate me."

Katrina began her Berea career in 1986 and currently serves as chair for the department of child and family studies and as coordinator of internships for Berea College. Through her work with the internship program, Katrina is involved in a large amount of informal advising. While academic advising is a daunting task sometimes, Katrina enjoys her advisory capacity very much—even, she says with a laugh, when she is informally approached in the aisles at Wal-Mart by students seeking advice.



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Child and Family Studies professor Dr. Katrina Rivers Thompson

Costumer Earns Community Service Award

For 25 years, Mary Ann Shupe, '68, has been an integral part of Berea College theatre productions, enlivening them with her costume designs. Her talents have enhanced many regional professional and amateur productions. For Mary Ann, the work is a creative outlet. "I cannot imagine life without being able to make something," says the winner of the 2009 Elizabeth Perry Miles Award for community service. "It is the way I express what is in my heart."

She grew up in Logan, West Virginia, surrounded by fabric, patterns, sewing machines, and a mother who was a superb seamstress. Now, Mary Ann works in a similar environment in the theatre costume shop, surrounded by bolts of cloth, patterns, dress dummies, stitching machines, steam irons, and tables—and the six students she mentors who are costumers-in-training. The shop hums during productions—a "controlled chaos."

Before the first dress rehearsal, students take on a majority of the work.

Between shows, they must continue working, which is why Mary Ann leads them through service projects, making Buckle-up Bears for the Madison County Health Department, walker caddies for retirement home residents, and chemo turbans for the American Cancer Society. "I never had monetary resources to give," says Mary Ann, "but I knew I had skills to share."

Nola Newman, a cancer survivor and foundation volunteer, shared with Mary Ann the excitement that one leukemia patient expressed upon receiving a turban. She chose one in each color. "It made me realize," says Mary Ann, "there are real people, with real needs, and we were making a difference."

At commencement, Dean Stephanie Browner commended her contributions, saying, "In drawing together these threads of service, Mary Ann Shupe has helped to create a quilt of community encompassing us all."



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Costumer Mary Ann Shupe



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Matthew Bailey

Two Brilliant Stars Light up the Commencement Stage

Berea students are known to be uncommonly talented, focused, and full of potential, but this year we were doubly pleased to have two graduates win the prestigious T.J. Wood award during May commencement. The award is given annually to a male student with outstanding scholarship and campus leadership. This year, Hung Tran, a Vietnam native, shared the award with Matthew Bailey, a native of rural Letcher County, Kentucky.

Already, Matthew Bailey has won the Lilli Brann Scholarship in Physical Science in 2008 and the Waldemar Noll Prize in Physics in 2009. He will enter graduate school at the University of Tennessee this fall, studying astrophysics. He first became interested in this science when a professor explained that 96 percent of the material in the universe is unknown to man—called dark energy and dark matter. “For me, there are a select few things in life more satisfying than appreciating the drama of the universe through an understanding of its underlying principles,” says Matthew.

His dream is to become an educator. “I study physics both from innate curiosity of how the world works, but more practically, to become trained so that I can better cultivate others’ interest.” Matthew’s passion for teaching came through his Berea experiences as a teaching assistant in physics and as a math tutor for students with learning disabilities at Hindman Settlement School.

“The experience engendered patience and understanding of the process of education as a tool for character development. I saw in those children the invaluable treasure of hope.”

He goes on to say that “Berea has shown me that education is a lifelong pursuit, and that, as my professor Dr. Lahamer has told me, ‘Matthew, the list of the things you don’t know when you are born is infinite, and the list of things you

don’t know when you die shall remain infinite.’ Still, we must persist in the attainment of education—if not to know everything, then to learn of ourselves of our human condition.”

Raised in a small village, Hung Tran says he lived in “a period of extreme poverty, but also of hope.” His parents were teachers who also worked as farmers, merchants, and carpenters to make ends meet. They taught him to never give up on a challenge and to never give up on a dream. “It was my dream of broadening my view that brought me to Berea,” he says. He is grateful that he found Berea College.

A double major in economics and mathematics, Hung has received numerous honors, including the Steve Boyce senior mathematics award, the Ballard-McConnell-Willis Mathematics Scholarship, the Chin Wang Prize in economics, the William Hart Award for academic and labor performance, and an Undergraduate Creative Research Project grant. He was also a Henry and Edna Astin scholar. His grade point average was an impressive 3.91. While at Berea, he received several grants to study at the University of California at Berkeley and in Budapest. Eventually, Hung plans to return to Vietnam, where he hopes to use all he has learned to contribute to its developing society.

For now, he will travel to Cornell University to pursue graduate study in mathematics, chiefly, in the areas of geometry and topology.

“Someone called mathematics ‘the language of nature.’ I’ll try to master that language and, hopefully, my study will be useful to nature, either through more understanding of some physical phenomena or human society.” In the meantime, Hung is already publishing his work; a paper he co-authored is forthcoming in the *New York Journal of Mathematics*.



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Hung Tran



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Morgan Adams

Aspiring Writer Wins Welch Wood Award

Morgan Adams, '09, of Lexington, Kentucky, received the Hilda Welch Wood Achievement Award for outstanding accomplishment. During her college career, Morgan received many honors, including admission to four honor societies.

The English major also earned major writing awards. She won the May B. Smith Award with her creative nonfiction, "Two Ravens," which explored her Norwegian heritage, her father's stories, and her grandmother's struggles with Alzheimer's disease. She took second-place in the Francis S. Hutchins award with her collected poetry and essays derived from her travels in Istanbul.

Morgan says her labor positions honed her skills as a writer—first, as a reporter for the College's online campus news publication, *BCnow*, and then, as a consultant at the Learning Center. She was editor of *Carillon*, the student literary magazine, her senior year. "Being in conversation about writing not only gives

me the chance to help other students, it gives me insight into my own writing habits and the ability to view my work from a new perspective." She has welcomed feedback from classmates and professors. "I can revise my own work endlessly, but having another person provide their views on my writing is invaluable. I would not be the writer I am without them."

She plans to pursue her master of fine arts degree with emphasis in poetry from Indiana University. "Poetry is a precise art, and every word and phrase must be carefully chosen and placed in order to convey the desired effect," she says. She also employs fiction and creative nonfiction in her writing. "I think, above all, my favorite genre is storytelling and whatever types of writing that can encompass." After obtaining her master's degree, Morgan hopes to teach or to open her own bookstore. "In any case, I will keep writing!"



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Robert Campbell

Campbell Shines as Kentucky's Best Student Employee

Robert Campbell, '09, the Outstanding Student Employee of the Year at Berea, also garnered the state award, becoming Kentucky Student Employee of the Year, an honor given through the Midwest Association of Student Employment Administrators.

An English major with a writing concentration, Robert worked all four years as a writing consultant and eventual student manager at the Learning Center. The staff program coordinator at the Learning Center, Vicky Hayes, '99, nominated him for the award. She commended Robert's work in reviving interest in *Carillon*, making the literary magazine a juried publication of student art and writing. "Without Mr. Campbell," she says, "it is likely that we would not have a literary magazine of the quality of *Carillon*; we would have no support for the many poets and novelists he has mentored, and our program here would not have evolved to its current level."

Robert's own scholarship merited him membership in three honor societies, and his writing talents earned him the Lyle and Dorothy Ferer Cary Award for Excellence in Writing; the Francis S. Hutchins Award; the Emily Ann Smith Award; and second place in the May B. Smith Composition Award.

At the Learning Center, Robert created a new staff manual, interviewed consultant candidates, trained employees, and helped numerous students to improve their writing. "Berea College students are just amazing," he says. "None of us could afford tutors in high school, and so what do we do? We tutor each other. I have learned much more working here than my clients have learned from me."

After graduation, the Lexington, Kentucky native plans to earn his master's degree in library and information science at the University of Kentucky before pursuing a master of fine arts degree in writing.

Kiwara Explores Art as Cultural Identity

By Jacques Turner, '11

Salome “Sash” Kiwara, '09, spent her childhood in Kikuyu, Kenya, painting on bed sheets with any paints she could find, desperate to travel and be an artist. During a visit to Kenya’s national archives in search of documentaries of British colonialism not shown on TV, she stumbled across the Murumbi collection—a dramatic and disordered array of artifacts from the African continent, collected by Joseph Murumbi, former vice president of Kenya.

Aware of the artifacts’ indirect, potentially illicit journey from discovery to archive room, Sash realized that, in addition to creating her own art, she needed to learn how to protect cultural property from looters and keep it where those whose history it contains can learn from it.

As a recipient of the 2009-10 Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, Sash, an art history major with a minor in French, will begin to realize her dream by traveling to Ethiopia, Tanzania, South Africa, Mali, Niger, Egypt, and Cambodia to explore how identities are formed and reflected in different communities through objects of their cultural heritage. Sash’s international fellowship grant is one of 40 grants awarded annually to graduating seniors with sound academic skills and unusual promise throughout the nation.

Although the Murumbi collection that inspired Sash’s study is seen as a varied and valuable collection of African heritage, the looting of cultural artifacts dramatically hinders archeological research and affects cultural identity. Poor farmers and villagers often find and sell artifacts to a middleman who, in turn, sells them to a museum, usually located in Europe or the United States. Sash will explore the economic hardships that may motivate the sale of artifacts and hopes to discover a way to

preserve the art in its original geographic and cultural context. “If people have nothing to relate to the past, then it will be difficult for them to decide what they want for their future,” says Sash.

In cases where native artifacts are still held by their cultural owners, she plans to investigate what is being done to protect them, and to determine preventative measures that could be initiated throughout Africa. She plans to talk with museum officials, leaders of preservation projects, and regular citizens whose opinions, she says, are often ignored. She hopes to “listen, watch, and learn.”

The Watson fellowship will allow Sash to “concentrate fully on just finding out what the situation is, without worrying about it fitting in a paper or a project.” After her fellowship, Sash plans to attend law school to study cultural heritage property law.

Rarely do museum professionals have the opportunity to approach the complex issue first-hand. “Sash will have this experience to draw from,” says Tina McCalment, the College museum and gallery director, “as she makes a career of challenging beliefs and policies that permit the transfer of cultural heritage artifacts without consequence. Tina is confident Sash will make the most of her opportunity and the insights gained through it.

Recently, Sash interned for the Lexington Art League, where she worked on a series of thematic shows ranging from art therapy to recycling. Among her academic accomplishments are: making the dean’s list six times, twice winning the art major award, winning the Jerome Hughes Humanities Award in 2008, and gaining admission to Berea’s academic honor societies. She also served as vice president of communication and marketing for the African Students Association.



Roy Rockett, '11

Salome Kiwara is the 28th Berea College graduate since 1988 to receive the Watson Fellowship.



This brass sculpture was a gift to Berea College in 1986 from Ambassador Franklin Williams, of Benin (West Africa).



O'Neil Arnold, '05

Aaron Sachs



O'Neil Arnold, '05

Miranda Hileman



O'Neil Arnold, '05

Will Haizlett



Tyler Castells, '08

Jesse Wilhite

Aaron Sachs Models Good Citizenship

Aaron Sachs, '09, a Knoxville, Tennessee native, received the E.R. Brann Good Citizenship Award for his outstanding contributions to the Christian character of the College.

Coordinator of student-led service programs, Heather Schill, '99, supervised Aaron's work since his first year at the College as a Bonner Scholar. "Aaron came to college with a passion for his faith and was very willing to share his ideas," she says. During his senior year he served as communication assistant for the Center for Excellence in Learning Through Service (CELTs).

Aaron also contributed to the work of the Baptist Campus Ministry as part of the group's praise team and, as president, expanded the group's community service and mission work. Additionally, the double major in German and speech communication worked as a children's mentor with Berea Buddies and with local officials on a delinquency prevention task force.

Two Students Receive Bluegrass Music Award

William Haizlett, '09, and Jesse Wilhite, '09, both received the 2009 Red Foley Memorial Music Award, which recognizes the musical contributions of Berea College students to the social life of the campus community.

Playing a mandolin he built himself, Will Haizlett, of Wellsburg, West Virginia, has performed and toured with the Berea College Bluegrass Ensemble for his entire college career. After graduation, the industrial technology management major plans to use his skills working with the underprivileged in the Dominican Republic.

Jesse Wilhite, a self-taught musician from Bradley, West Virginia, who sings and plays guitar with his bandmates in the SunDogs, owes his early musical experiences to his mother, who he says also plays guitar and sings. Jesse has written more than 30 songs that have debuted in venues around campus and in the community.

The award was established in 1970 by Red Foley's long-time friend and manager, Ely E. Siman, Jr., V-12, '44, and is intended to help recipients pursue careers in music.

Hileman Helps Lexington Grow a Greener Tomorrow

Miranda Hileman, '09, will spend the next 12 months digging in the dirt with Lexington, Kentucky community members. Miranda was the recipient of a Compton Mentor Fellowship, which allows students to work for a year under a mentor anywhere in the world and gain experience in their chosen field. Her proposal, "Grow Lexington! Nurturing Young Minds on Common Ground for a Greener Tomorrow," aligns her with Jim Embry, founder of Sustainable Communities Network.

"He [Embry] called me up and took me on a tour of Lexington and the community gardens, showing me everything that could be accomplished with my help." Their goal is "to increase the resilience of Lexington by improving food security for minorities and low-income residents through the enhancement of community gardens and the expansion of educational programs in food production for youth."

Miranda, a native of rural Pennsylvania, will help maintain and revamp existing gardens, providing food for the area while "cutting out the middle man and transportation costs." She plans to work with vocational students, giving them an opportunity to learn community empowerment—from planting seedlings to creating advanced management plans.

An "edible schoolyard" program she will implement will integrate hands-on lessons in public school gardens, where students can learn gardening techniques as well as how and where foods are grown. Eventually, "kitchen classroom" sessions will allow children to experience the post-harvest processes. The produce can hopefully be served in the school cafeteria, lowering costs and offering a tremendous learning experience in sustainable agriculture.

Busier than a Long-Tailed Dog in a Room Full of Rockin' Chairs

By Megan Smith, '11

Amid a circle of students, William “Bill” Turner sits perched on top of a table in a blue-striped shirt that is neatly tucked into brown pants. He rests his feet on a chair and his elbows on his knees. With eyeglasses in one hand and *The New Yorker* in the other, he tilts his head towards the ceiling and talks slowly with his eyes closed. After speaking, a smile spreads across his face and his eyes slowly scan his “Community Analysis in Appalachian Case Studies” students.

As the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) chair in Appalachian Studies at Berea College, teaching is just one of Bill’s endeavors that, Bill says, has kept him “busier than a long-tailed dog in a room full of rockin’ chairs.”

Bill has dedicated three decades to promoting the experience and histories of African Americans in Appalachia. For his dedication, Bill received the highest honor bestowed by the Appalachian Studies Association (ASA)—the Lifetime of Service Award—during its annual conference held in

Bill Turner began his long, distinguished writing career as a researcher for Alex Haley’s *Roots*.



Caitlin Ambrose, '11

Portsmouth, Ohio in March. Last year the Kentucky Civil Rights Hall of Fame recognized him as the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Citizen of the Year.

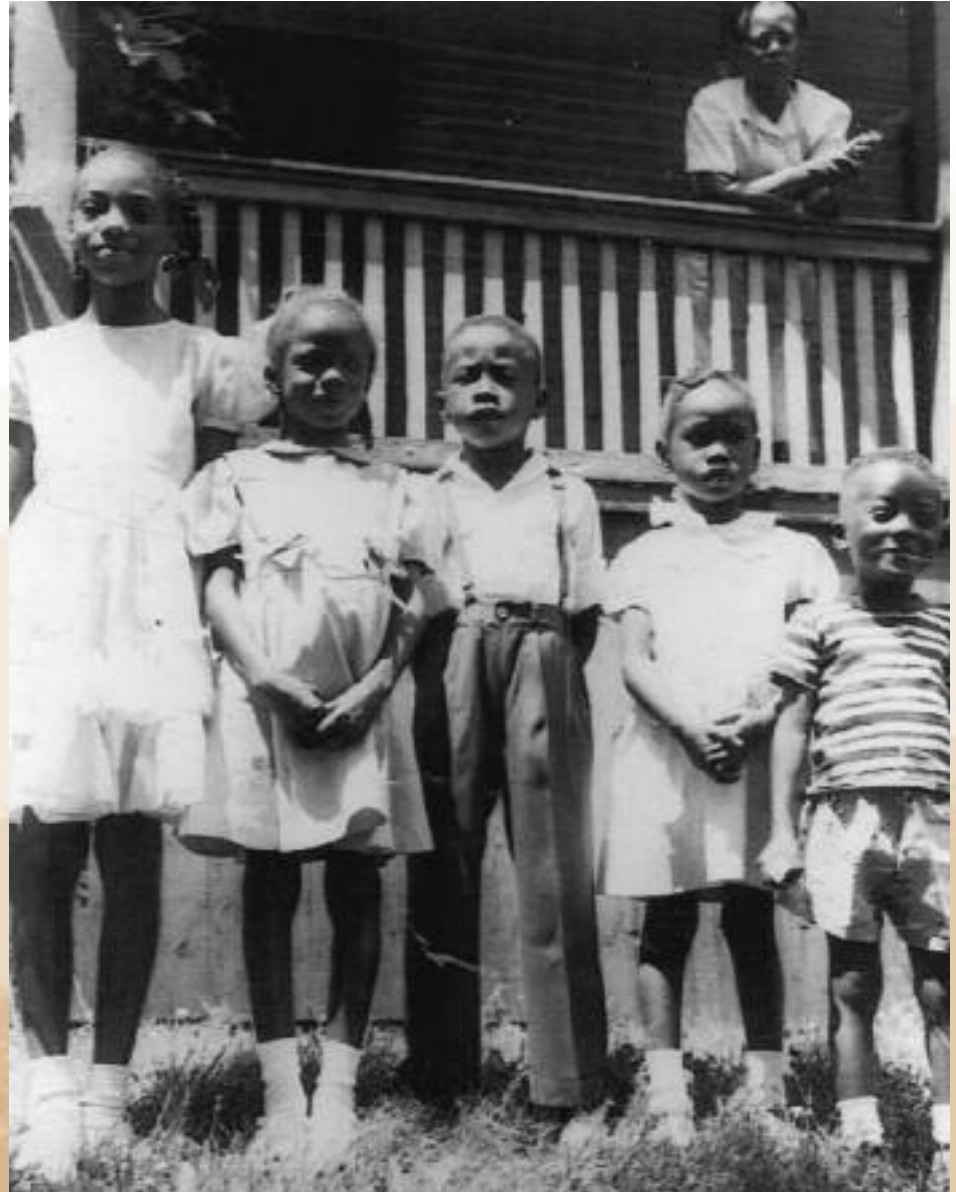
In 1988, Bill initiated the Black Mountain Improvement Association, building on the pioneering work of the African American and Appalachian scholar Ed Cabell and other Appalachian scholars such as Loyal Jones, '54, Sydney Saylor Farr, '80, and former president of Berea College John Stephenson. Bill worked first-hand with African American Appalachian communities, sometimes with author Alex Haley. Six years later, the Christian Appalachian Project (CAP) named Bill its Person of the Year. As NEH Chair in Appalachian Studies, Bill continues to promote the education and scholarship of blacks in Appalachia. His favorite Appalachian saying is: "Prayers will go unanswered until you pray with your legs!"

In recognition of Bill Turner's lifetime of service to the region, Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo, along with several other Kentucky public officials including U.S. Representative Ben Chandler, wrote to President Obama recommending that he nominate Bill to the Senate to head the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). The head of the ARC works with the governors of 13 states with Appalachian counties and coordinates federal and state policies regarding the region. At the same time, he would help to develop its economies and infrastructures. If selected, Bill will become the first black federal co-chair.

Chad Berry, director of the Appalachian Center, believes that Bill's appointment to the ARC would remind citizens of the region's diversity. "No one has done more to educate us of the contributions and experiences of people of color in Appalachia than Bill Turner," says Chad.

"To have my name on the same sheet of paper as the name of President Barack Obama is a special privilege," says Bill. "To be under consideration underscores the importance of those people in my life, like the great teachers I had at the Lynch Colored School, who had such an impact on the lives of thousands of blacks who've contributed so much to the region."

If elected to the ARC, Bill says he would hold a series of "listening" sessions



Bill's mother, Naomi Randolph Turner, watches over her children at home in Lynch. Bill, the youngest child on the right, was joined later by three younger brothers.

in key Appalachian counties to hear firsthand the needs of the people. He wants to improve communication between the ARC and the people it serves and to direct more funding toward "strengthening families, advancing education, and expanding broadband in the central region."

Depressed counties need to explore alternative ways of making a living, he says. "Internet access and other forms of communication must be expanded because, at present, these communities are isolated from the rest of America and the global economy." Although changes have occurred since the ARC began in the 1960s, Bill argues that there are still places

in Appalachia that are sources of national concern. The average family income in former coal towns (like the town of Lynch, where he grew up) is now relatively lower than it was when Bill left for college four decades ago.

Bill understands coal mining, having grown up in Harlan County, Kentucky. His father's family members were miners in Wise County in southwest Virginia, and his mother's family included miners in nearby Benham, Kentucky. William Earl and Naomi Randolph Turner reared ten children and lived in a company-owned, two-bedroom house heated by coal-burning fireplaces. On the Turners' living room wall hung the



William Earl Turner's take-home pay was \$45.70—after 72 hours in the mine—the week of Christmas, 1946, when Bill was 6 months old. Mr. Turner, born in Cochran (White County) Va., died in 1987, worked for the US Steel Mine in Lynch (Harrison County) Kentucky for 48 years.

US STEEL MINE - COCHRAN, VA.	
PAYROLL - DECEMBER 20, 1946	
NAME	PAY
W. E. TURNER	45.70
TOTAL	
45.70	

William Earl Turner (right) and the pay stub showing that he received \$45.70—his weekly earnings during December 1946.

portraits of Jesus, Martin Luther King, Jr., and John L. Lewis. His father was an ardent trade unionist and a fierce supporter of worker's rights.

During Bill's childhood, Lynch was a highly capitalized, highly planned, company-owned mining town in one of the richest coal-bearing lodes in central Appalachia. Bill recalls his childhood as stable. "I always felt very secure, and my experience was framed by a web of family, school, and church—a sense of place," says Bill. In his youth, 49 different nationalities and races lived in Lynch, making it one of the most diverse towns in the entire nation.

Bill says he had never heard the term "Appalachian" until introduced to the concept through reading Michael Harrington's *The Other America* and Harry Caudill's *Night Comes to the Cumberlands*. John Stephenson, who was Bill's mentor and professor at the University of Kentucky prior to coming to Berea College, had "a profound impact" on his understanding of the region.

"Even then, I didn't look at Appalachia as 'The Other America.' That seemed to require that I put down the very place and people that had nourished me," says Bill. It was not until he got off the mountain and compared where he lived to

the rest of America and the world that he really came to understand what outsiders meant by "Appalachian." It meant being isolated from the rest of the nation, denied access to its vaults of opportunity and material possessions, although the rest of the nation depended on the Appalachian region's material resources for its economic development—a supreme irony.

Since the 1980s, Bill has worked as a freelance journalist and is a member of the Trotter Group, a Harvard University-based network of black journalists. Writing for the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, he penned "Appalachian Voices" to speak out about the experiences of black Appalachians. As a freelance writer, his essays appeared in 10 black newspapers in North Carolina from 1986-96. Bill has written numerous essays, authored *The Path of My Pilgrimage: the Autobiography of Marshall B. Bass*, and twice served as the guest editor of special issues of *Appalachian Heritage*.

Bill pays tribute to the family, school, church, and the place that raised him in his memoir in progress, tentatively titled *Black Mountain Mantrip*. The manuscript recalls his childhood in Lynch. One of Bill's earliest memories was hearing his mother call his father from bed each morning by saying, "Honey, c'mon, you

gon' miss the mantrip." (A mantrip is a small, canopied railcar used to transport workers into the mine.)

The phrase has a certain ring to it, says Bill. "I use it as a metaphor that speaks to my life's journey, what my parents imbued in us in terms of working hard and looking out for others," says Bill. He is also collaborating on a documentary film that interweaves the experiences of African Americans in Appalachian coal towns.

Currently, Bill has been gathering information on black faith communities in several eastern Kentucky counties. Of his own church experience, Bill says, "Sometimes I had no idea what the preacher was saying (shouting about), but it always sounded real good; it is the basis for my love of oratory and storytelling." At the First Missionary Baptist Church in Lynch, Bill liked going to funerals, even if he didn't know the person who had died. "I liked the way funerals brought people out, brought their emotions out, gave an outlet for the love and bonds that existed between people."

He first came to the College in 1988 to serve as the first Goode Distinguished Professor of Black and Appalachian Studies, and returned in 2007. In all he does, Bill continues to pass along his enthusiasm for and interest in the region. "I hope to see more scholars, researchers, students, and policy-makers along the ridges and valleys," says Bill. "There is so very much we *don't know* about blacks in Appalachia."

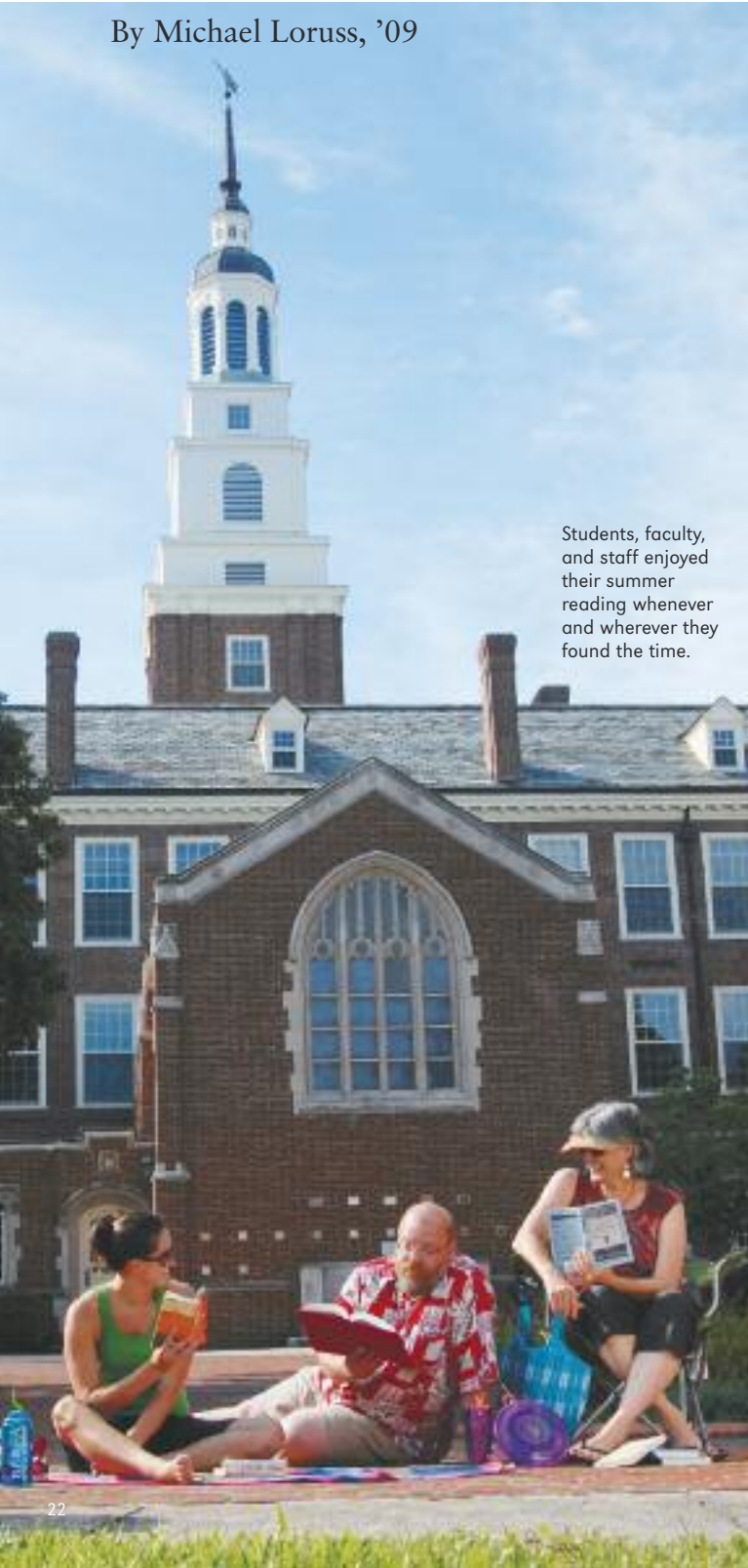
Berea College holds a special place in his heart. "More than anything, it is the idea of Berea College that continues to attract me," says Bill. "It inspires me daily to be at this very special place where the body of work that I am interested in is also a foundational element in the historic, current, and future life of the institution itself. That means a lot. Indeed, it means everything to me!"

On the last day of class, Professor Turner's students file out the door. They cannot pass by without giving Bill a hug. As Bill patiently awaits news from Washington, he continues to focus on the region and its people—busier than a long-tailed dog in a room full of rockin' chairs.



Summertime and

By Michael Loruss, '09



Students, faculty, and staff enjoyed their summer reading whenever and wherever they found the time.

In June, when the weather warms and most students travel home for the three-month break, many professors—even some who are teaching over the summer term—find themselves engaged in some much-needed pleasure reading. Likewise, the College's staff will dust off an old favorite or splurge on new paperbacks. And for new retirees, a long-awaited pleasure reading program has just begun.

For this issue, the *Berea College Magazine* journeys into the personal libraries of the campus community. So slather on your sunblock, slip on your flip-flops, and join us as we traverse the literary landscape in search of a place to lay down our lawn chairs.

Vicky Hayes, '99, Learning Center coordinator, attained her bachelor's degree in English but went on to earn her master's degree in Appalachian Studies and was involved in the Appalachian Renaissance of writers during the 1970s.

Citing author Cormac McCarthy as one of her personal creative influences, Vicky points out: "[His] work both borrowed and broke the rules. He writes books that you simultaneously can't put down and want to throw down the basement stairs. He's a philosopher, and a prophet—I fear. He tries to work out the big problems like why we keep killing each other and destroying the planet."

Vicky leaves readers with a quote from McCarthy's *Cities of the Plain* (Vintage, 1998): "Every man's death is a standing in for every other. And since death comes to all there is no way to abate the fear of it except to love that man who stands for us."

She also suggests *No Insurance Available* (Lulu.com, 2008) by Berea College professor of English Richard Sears, who was one of Vicky's first professors and has taught at Berea for more than 42 years. She describes his short stories as "masterful" and "stark" and says, "It will make you shiver."

Shan Ayers, who holds an MFA in theater design, begins his 26th year of teaching this fall. Shan says that his literary interests fluctuate over time. "My reading tastes go in waves. Often, my casual reading has influenced my academic work, leading to choosing pieces for courses that I simply read for enjoyment."

At the moment, Shan is enjoying *The Broker* by John Grisham (Doubleday, 2005) and a nonfiction book, *Talent Is Overrated*, by Geoff Colvin (Penguin Books, 2008). Last summer, Shan read William Young's *The Shack* (Windblown Media, 2007) which, he says, "changed the way I think about my faith and how I look at world issues. It isn't new, but if you haven't read it, it is worth a look."

Providing some darkly humorous philosophy, Shan shares this quote: "*En boca cerrada no entran moscas.*" (If you keep your mouth closed, the flies won't get in.)

the Reading's Easy

Professor and director of women's studies Peggy Rivage-Seul recently read *Dinner with Mugabe* by Zimbabwean journalist Heidi Holland (Penguin Global, 2008) and Eduardo Galeano's latest work, *Mirrors* (Nation Books, 2009). Of Galeano, Peggy states, "[He] is one of Latin America's most powerful voices on behalf of the non-elite. This newest book makes visible, in poetic ways, the lives of others, especially women, who lived as courageous, but unrecognized, models of human existence."

For her daily meditative reflection, Peggy reads Eknath Easwaran's interpretation of sacred Hindu literature, *The Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living* (Laurier Books, 2001). Each day, for 30 minutes, she sits and silently repeats sacred passages from various religious traditions. "I meditate because it is the best way I know to center myself and remain steady and productive throughout the day," she says.

Normandi Ellis, a fiction writer who also edits the *Berea College Magazine*, tends to read three to four books at a time. This summer, she is reading *From Where You Dream: The Process of Writing Fiction* by Robert Olen Butler (Grove Press, 2006); *Mother on the Other Side of the World*, poems by the late James Baker Hall

(Sarabande Books, 1999); and *Chicago*, a novel of Islamic immigrants by Alaa Al Aswany (Harper, 2008).

Normandi often reads across genres, and one of her nonfiction favorites, *Losing My Mind* by Thomas DeBaggio (Free Press, 2003), explores DeBaggio's personal account of living with Alzheimer's disease. "The narrative style of that book intrigued me, as I could see a narrative that was splintering in its ability to analyze, its sentences becoming truncated much like his memories. I liked it because my father was diagnosed with Alzheimer's and lived with it 10 years before dying of other causes."

She also recommends Thomas Moore's *A Life at Work: The Joy of Discovering What You Were Born to Do* (Broadway Books, 2008). She believes that Moore "speaks to the idea that in a lifetime one might have a variety of callings, but that in all our work what keeps us going is the capacity to engage with the process of work, not just its product." She offers this quote from that book: "A life work is the work of your life, meaning that your whole life is a work, and every aspect of it can make a contribution to your sense of calling."

John Bolin, professor emeritus of English, theatre, and speech communication, recently retired after 39 years at Berea College. Already this summer, he has read more than 10 books, including: Michael

Morpurgo's *War Horse* (Greenwillow Books, 1982), young-adult fiction that the London National Theatre adapted and has had a sensational run with, as well as Pakistani American author Daniyal Mueenuddin's *In Other Rooms, Other Wonders* (W.W. Norton, 2009).

Drawn to Mark Twain's *Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc* (Ignatius Press, 1989), John says, "Twain is looking at the transition of the French and English from the medieval to the early modern of the Renaissance, a transition much like our own from the politics of the United States as a super power to the place of America in our complex present time."

He says that his favorite forms of fiction are drama and the novel. While he prefers the nineteenth century for the novel and the twentieth century for drama, he mentions with a smile, "I have no idea why I am fond of these two centuries, except to say that all of the people I have known well (with the exception of my granddaughter) were born in either one or the other century."

He shares his favorite quote from *Easter*, a poem by George Herbert:

Can there be any day but this,
Though many suns to shine endeavor?
We count three hundred but we miss:
There is but one, and that one ever.



Vicky Hayes with *No Insurance Available*




Peggy Rivage-Seul with Eknath Easwaran's *The Bhagavad Gita for Daily Living*



John Bolin with Mark Twain's *Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc*





The View from the Balcony

By Deb McIntyre, '10

President Larry Shinn stands at his office window on the second floor of Lincoln Hall watching students cross Chestnut Street, hurrying to their various destinations. Concerns crowd his mind and he turns around.

Faces stare back at him. They line the walls and shelves: Mother Teresa, Martin Luther King Jr., the Dalai Lama, Julian Bond, Desmond Tutu, and, prominently placed over his desk, Mahatma Gandhi. These servant leaders and activists gaze at him—a cloud of witnesses to his own personal challenges as he leads those who carry out the vision of the founders of Berea College—154 years after students first arrived.

This 67-year-old knows that most people his age are taking off the suits and ties of their professional life and slipping into the comfortable clothing of retirement—vacationing, pursuing hobbies, spoiling grandchildren, and reaping the harvest of their labors. Yet Larry has set those pursuits aside to lead Berea College through what he calls “a perfect storm”—the tempest into which the economic downturn has tossed the institution.

As a member of the American Council of Education commission on diversity and leadership, Larry knows that there are “fewer and fewer” people who want to take on the task of university or college president. “It’s a very, very big job. In a complex institution, you have to be willing to set aside your own interests,

care deeply about the institution and the people involved, but be willing to challenge the institution to grow stronger—even when growing stronger is not easy,” says Larry.

His own path to the presidency began on a farm near Alliance in northeastern Ohio in the early 1940s. His parents cultivated seven acres amid neighbors’ larger farms, keeping a dairy cow, a horse, a few hogs, and chickens for their own consumption. They worked their own “truck farm,” consuming and preserving their produce and selling any they could spare.

At nine years old, Larry worked during the summer on a neighbor’s farm. He arrived for breakfast at 6 a.m., spent the day working among the 100 hogs, 75 cattle, 4,000 chickens, and field crops, stopping only for a large home-cooked dinner at noon followed by a catnap on the farmhouse floor with the other laborers and a supper of leftovers. He usually arrived back home around 7 p.m. with his daily pay of \$1. For the next three summers, Larry continued working there, sometimes helping out on weekends and school holidays.

At age 12, Larry began to work with his father, a self-employed house painter who started the business to make ends meet after returning from World War II. The business was no picnic. Larry spent his entire first year on the job doing nothing but sanding. This summer job



Larry on the farm with Shep in 1944 (left); Larry and Nancy on a 1959 date; and the Oberlin professor's family in 1972 with daughters, Christie and Robyn.

continued through his graduate school years and, eventually, he became a union-qualified painter. Years later, he had the ironic privilege of giving a commencement address in the gymnasium at Mount Union College under the ceiling he had helped to paint 45 years earlier. He spoke of his journey from the paint scaffold to the desk of a college president and the journeys that education allows people to take.

After much soul-searching while attending Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, and Drew Theological School in Madison, New Jersey, Larry chose his profession—teaching religion. He had considered careers as an engineering missionary, doctor, lawyer, and minister. In 1970 he began a satisfying career as a professor at Oberlin College in Ohio, earning his doctorate in the history of religion from Princeton University in 1972. “I had lots of ideas of what I wanted to become and clearly, from my point of view, I chose the right one. I loved to teach. I had very good students who would challenge me. They helped me grow and I loved to learn.”

Fourteen years into teaching at Oberlin, Larry received a surprise phone call from Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, asking him to interview for a dean's position. Unbeknownst to him, a former Oberlin colleague and Berea College alumnus, Dr. James Powell, '58, had recommended him. Powell was president of Franklin Marshall College at the time. Larry decided to interview for the job. He became a Bucknell professor and Dean of the

College of Arts and Sciences for five years, before serving as Vice President for Academic Affairs for another five years.

Then, in 1994, he received another unexpected call—this time from Berea College. Dr. Powell had again recommended him for a job. Intrigued by Berea's distinctive mission, Larry decided to pursue the opportunity and was offered the presidency from a field of 160 candidates. Nancy retired after 25 years of teaching kindergarten and first grade, and the couple packed up and moved to Berea in time for the fall semester.

The new president quickly learned of the passion that employees, friends, and alumni of the College hold for the mission embodied in the Great Commitments—all of which were a legacy of the vision of the school's founders. To understand what lay at the root of that passion, Larry spent long hours in the library archives his first two summers, reading John G. Fee's speeches, learning Berea's history in the College's formative years.

What he discovered prepared him to see the big picture—the view from the balcony—of all that Berea College was, and is, and could become. This viewpoint, shared with others, helped the community choose the title for the 1996 strategic plan: “Being and Becoming: Berea College in the 21st Century.” Though initially he found that many people saw Berea as being a college geared toward just one or two aspects of the Great Commitments, over time they came to see Berea's mission as multifaceted. “I think we're better now at

understanding that ours is a complex mission with many dimensions. Berea's mission is powerful and unique only when all of the elements are included.”

Berea's strategic plan, which developed after more than 70 meetings of all or parts of the community, resulted in a strengthening of all of the Great Commitments. The Appalachian Center (now the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center) expanded, moved into the Bruce-Trades Building in 1999, and brought the Appalachian Studies program, *Appalachian Heritage* magazine, Brushy Fork Institute, and the Artifacts & Exhibits Studio together under one roof. The College's involvement since 2005 with federally funded Gaining Early Awareness and Retention for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), which reaches 4,400 area school-aged, underprivileged children, and the formation of the Entrepreneurship for the Public Good (EPG), with its service to the economic revitalization of Appalachian communities, strengthened the College's mission to serve the region.

In reflecting on the past 15 years, Larry says, “The complexion of the campus has changed. You see greater diversity than you saw 15 years ago—32 percent of our student population is non-Caucasian.” The interracial element has indeed intensified under his watch, going from six percent African American students to eighteen percent. The board of trustees and faculty are also more diverse, and efforts are ongoing to increase diversity in administration and leadership positions. “All

of that creates a Berea learning environment that is much more powerful—more like the world around us.”

The commitment to “stimulate understanding of the Christian faith” was solidified in an official statement called *The Christian Identity of Berea College*, finalized in 2002 after five years of intense discussions on campus. It reiterates John G. Fee’s understanding that the Christian message is inclusive of all nations and climes. “While Berea’s inclusive Christianity has remained faithful to its biblical roots that focus on love of God and love of neighbor, that very Christian focus suggests that all people of the earth are our brothers and sisters,” Larry says.

“Unless you understand Berea’s inclusive Christian foundation, you won’t understand why we focus on the interracial or the Appalachian commitments. One of the most powerful things about Berea has been its motto, ‘God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth.’ Berea has tried to live that out for 154 years, but without that phrase, what would be our guiding philosophy? This inclusive Christian self-understanding fundamentally invites the diversity we have in our mission. It is the power. It is the center.”

Early in his Berea career, Larry worked with various campus departments to increase student retention and graduation rates. While the Admissions Office may be making more effective decisions about which students are apt to succeed, resources have been made available to assist struggling students: the Learning Center, which helps students with their research, writing, and presentation skills, expanded and found a home in 2002, and those struggling with math and computer science courses receive help through the Developmental Mathematics Program and a student-staffed tutoring lab. Perhaps most important, according to Larry, faculty advising has improved through a number of popular programs. As a result, in the past 15 years, the College has advanced from a 65 percent freshman-to-sophomore retention rate to above 80 percent, and a 46 percent graduation rate in 1996 has become nearly 65 percent today.

Most evident are the sustainability efforts that are tied to the College’s commitment to “plain living” and “concern

for the welfare of others.” Larry has long believed in ecological responsibility. Back in the ’70s, he built a home in Oberlin, Ohio equipped with solar panels. In 2009, with the Ecovillage, 28 energy-efficient remodeled or renovated buildings, and a new central plant, the campus is greener than it was previously.

Not long after Larry became president, students spoke to him requesting \$60,000 to put recycling bins across campus and volunteered to fill any labor positions that might be created as a result. Once that was achieved, students made a push for using 100 percent recycled paper products on campus. In 2005, students initiated the 10x10 program, which was a commitment to using 10 percent of the College’s electricity from renewable sources by 2010. A few years ago, about 30 students on bicycles gathered on the Shinns’ lawn to lobby for the College to adopt the Kyoto protocols to reduce carbon dioxide

emissions. “It’s been a wonderful surprise that, throughout my whole time here, the leading group in our sustainability efforts has been students. They have been my greatest green allies.”

An avid reader, Larry often goes through several books in one month, reading before bedtime and during downtime on his frequent travels. A topic of ardent study since his time at Bucknell is leadership. Over the years, his understanding of what makes a good leader has changed. His first leadership role was as captain of his high school and college football teams. Larry compares his early ideas of a leader to a silverback gorilla or what he calls “the John Wayne mode of leadership”—“I’m the strongest person, follow me.” After researching the topic, his beliefs changed dramatically and he saw leadership as “something you do in community and for community.”



Larry edits notes for one of the many speeches he gives as President of Berea College.

Larry embraces the notion of servant leadership, in which leaders see themselves as working on behalf of an organization and its people as well as transformational leadership. It seeks to develop leaders within an organization and “help an institution transform itself through the leadership that’s developed in people on all levels.” A book that has shaped his understanding of key dimensions of leadership is *Leadership without Easy Answers* by Ronald Heifetz, head of the Kennedy Leadership Institute at Harvard University. Heifetz asserts that the silverback gorilla-style of leadership is dysfunctional in our modern age.

“He says the contemporary community leader is someone who must have the capacity to perform two interrelated tasks. He must be able to climb up onto the balcony, moving away from the leadership decisions that he is a part of, and watch the dances taking place on the dance floor. Yet, he must also be able to descend the stairs and dance the dances himself,” says Larry. He often uses this metaphor with his leadership team, advising them, “Okay, go to the balcony now. We need to stand back, look, and decide how best to address this issue.”

This bird’s-eye view is especially needed in the current financial crisis—a perfect storm that has “extraordinarily and adversely affected” Berea’s well-managed endowment, which funds 80 percent of the College operating budget. Donor gifts constitute another 10 percent of the budget, but both income streams have taken heavy hits. Because of this, the current 2009-10 budget needed to be cut by 25 percent.



The Shinn's join in the dance during the 2007 Alumni Gala Ball.

Since 70 percent of the College budget is in human resources, this has led to job cuts, which have been difficult for everyone in the College community.

“My job is not only to be on the balcony telling everyone what the whole picture looks like. It’s also being in the midst of the dancers, hearing their concerns, hearing their pain, hearing their anger,” says Larry. “It’s my job to explain why all those financial and people dances are important and how they fit together, but other people have to see the balcony, too, because they have to actually accomplish the dance.”

A key element in leading effectively is to have very good people at all levels. “If our business is really about people,” he says, “we must find the best person for every position: faculty, administrator, or staff. The higher you set the standard for hiring, the stronger your institution becomes.”

Recently, the faculty voted to put in place a post-tenure review process, for the first time in the school’s history, a move

Larry applauded. The process ensures that faculty will be held to maintaining that high standard throughout their careers.

“Having quality people throughout the College is extremely important at a time such as this when the budget cuts require a new vision for Berea. Leaders must be able to frame the issues and ask the tough questions,” says Larry. Such questions include “How does a community that is built upon a strong and complex mission now conceive of itself living in a resource-constrained environment, not just for the next couple of years, but permanently?”

To find answers, the president created a Scenario Planning Taskforce headed by Stephanie Browner, dean of faculty. This group of nine faculty and staff members and one student has been given the monumental task of creating several scenarios envisioning a future Berea College that addresses its core mission, yet does so with a budget reduced by 25 percent. Community members were invited to share ideas and close to 100 ideas were submitted. The scenarios will be presented to Larry and key Berea constituencies in October.

“I don’t know what models will be proposed or what the resolution is going to be,” says Larry, who chooses to look at the situation in a more positive light. “If we have to cut our budget by 25 percent, the glass isn’t 25 percent empty; it’s 75 percent full. I just have this deep confidence in our community, that even though there will be very difficult conversations and decisions and real disagreements, we have the capacity to come out on the other side as a strong, and maybe even stronger, learning community.”

Larry’s own odyssey from hoeing corn in rural Ohio to writing speeches in his Lincoln Hall office has uniquely qualified him to lead the College through this crisis. While he longs for more time with Nancy, their two daughters, and five grandchildren, he sees his personal and professional life as part of an integrated whole—his vocation. He strives to live a life where he is always learning and growing—loving others unconditionally and seeking their good above his own. “A life well-lived imagines positive futures but serves people in the present. Ultimately, such a life is one lived toward God.”



Nancy and Larry Shinn’s home is headquarters for formal senior and alumni banquets, as well as a hub for entertaining dignitaries, trustees, and friends of the College. The furniture here was made by student woodworkers at Berea College Crafts.

O'Neil Arnold, '85



Nancy Shinn —

Cheerleader, Confidante, and Coworker

By Deb McIntyre, '10

First Lady Nancy Shinn recently spoke with an alumna who was ill and had lost her appetite. Nancy asked her what she was hungry for, and the alumna said “homemade vegetable soup.” Soon, a pot bubbled on the kitchen stove at the President’s House while spoonbread browned in the oven. Two hours later, Nancy unpacked a picnic in the woman’s hospital room. The woman was thrilled. “I like to do that kind of thing—the unexpected,” says Nancy. “If somebody expects me to do something, I’ll do it, but it’s not nearly as much fun.”

Nancy relishes this aspect of her role as First Lady. “In this position there’s a lot of nurturing of other people in the community, whether it’s the trustees, faculty, or students.

Like Larry, Nancy grew up on a small farm in rural northeastern Ohio. Her close-knit family relied on a small livestock holding and a large vegetable garden. Her six siblings were great friends and playmates. Nancy decided she wanted to be a teacher at an early age, drawn to young children through her mother’s example. “I always thought I had an ideal childhood.”

Nancy met Larry when she began attending Alliance High School. The 14-year-old Larry was attracted to her intellect and kindness. “She was a person who carried herself with grace. In fact, my nickname for her in our early years was Princess,” says Larry, who, as a shy teenager, tried to get her attention in class by tapping her shoulder or flipping her hair and then looking away.

She saw past his tricks and discovered a young man with a “quick and easy smile and bright, baby blue eyes” who was intelligent and possessed leadership qualities. After a date at a skating rink, the two were inseparable. When there was no school, Larry bicycled nine miles to visit Nancy after finishing his chores. “That’s what living in the country was like, but she was worth it,” he says. “When you find someone with whom you can have interesting conversations that makes for a pretty nice relationship.”



O'Neil Arnold, '85

Nancy Shinn, who was an educator of young children, speaks with Dr. Neil Mecham, a faculty member in the child and family studies department, during the 2008 Berea College Appalachian Tour.

After graduating high school (she was valedictorian; he was salutatorian—blame it on one “B” in a typing class), it was on to college. Because she promised her mother she would get her degree before marrying, Nancy finished college in three years. They were married the summer before Larry’s senior year, and she began her 25-year teaching career.

The summer after he graduated, a college professor chose the couple to teach a year in the Friends’ School, a private, Quaker-sponsored boarding school in

Ramallah, Israel, near Jerusalem. The school educated children from kindergarten through twelfth grade. Nancy taught grades 1-3 in one classroom, without the benefit of books, chalkboard, or other teaching aids, and with no set curriculum. Larry taught high school science and English to young men and coached the basketball team. Nancy also taught music theory, started a choir, and put on a Christmas program. The couple supervised the boarding students.

The experience opened their eyes to other cultures and religions and to the poverty and politics of the Middle East. The experience cemented their reliance on and devotion to each other. “The communication had to be there,” Nancy says. “You couldn’t run home (to Mom) and moan about what you didn’t like.”

Now, Nancy works as a special assistant to her husband; her modest salary is a gesture of appreciation from the trustees. During the last academic year, she hosted 64 overnight guests and 1,113 visitors for 74 meals and receptions. She plans all menus and cooks many of the meals herself. Their guests include students, staff, faculty, alumni, and friends of the College. Her homemade crème brûlée is legendary.

The President’s Home is a haven where Nancy and Larry can reconnect, enjoying conversations over coffee at the kitchen table. Nancy lends an ear as he speaks of troubling issues, and letting him talk it through helps immensely. She is his cheerleader, encouraging him, applauding his decisions, and giving him honest feedback about his numerous speeches. “I give the support so that he can do what needs to be done,” she says. “Larry tells me over and over again, ‘Nancy, I could not do this job without you.’”

Berea's Lincoln Links

By Julie Sowell

Travis Blankenship, '10, stands at a table in Berea College's Hutchins Library Special Collections department. Abraham Lincoln's likeness is all around—on pamphlets, on book covers, in framed portraits. Several pale gray, fiberboard boxes designed to preserve delicate objects are also there. Lifting the lid of one, Travis reveals neatly divided compartments that hold commemorative coins, small portraits, photographs on glass, and other memorabilia. These, too, have some association with our country's 16th president.

"This is my personal favorite," says Travis, a student and assistant archivist in Special Collections. He pulls out a tiny metal log cabin. Not much bigger than a Monopoly game token, the cabin was once worn by a Lincoln supporter during the 1864 re-election campaign, as evidenced by a few shreds of ribbon that remain attached. The cabin and the other materials are just part of the hundreds of artifacts and books in Berea's Lincoln collection that Travis has to choose from for an exhibit he's putting together called "The Lincoln Legacy and Berea College." The history and classical civilizations major from Hurley, Virginia, Travis says he's gaining experience in practical skills in exhibit production through the project. He hopes that those who view the exhibit will come away with an understanding that "the Lincoln legacy at Berea runs surprisingly deep."

The exhibit, which will be on display at the library into 2010, is one way Berea College is taking part in the National Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration honoring the 200th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. The three-year-long celebration began in February 2008 in Lincoln's birthplace, Kentucky. Much of the national celebration continues to be focused in the state.

Travis is getting help and advice for his exhibit from historian Shannon Wilson,

head of special collections and archives and the College representative on a higher education subcommittee of the Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. "The objective of this group was to find ways to promote the Kentucky-Lincoln legacy on campuses," says Shannon. "All of the Lincoln-related activities hold excitement for the state and are a great opportunity for our colleges and universities."

Several Kentucky institutions have sponsored symposia and lecture series and brought in guest speakers, exhibits, performances, and other events to their campuses. Berea is fortunate to have historical connections, Lincoln-related collections, and other resources already here to draw from, says Shannon. These include books, manuscripts, and printed materials of all kinds, art works, photographs, and archival documents, including one original Lincoln letter.

"The collections on campus are one very obvious way we can show Berea's connection to the Lincoln legacy," says Shannon. "The exhibit Travis is creating does that, as well as shows how Lincoln has been portrayed through art, photography, and documents in general."

Shannon says he hopes the Lincoln anniversary activities will create interest in Berea's Lincoln collections to increase their use both by scholars and in courses on campus. "The collections might offer a number of ways to emphasize Lincoln's role in American life and history or in iconography," says Shannon. "We now have a very nice working collection of Lincoln materials, a very fine collection. Maybe the Lincoln anniversary will help us promote it."

Special Collections staff members are working to improve access to the materials, and they offer a newly revised guide to the Lincoln Historical Collection by College archivist Jaime Bradley. Student workers



Senior Travis Blankenship gingerly displays a pastel portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

Roy Puckett, '11

Evan Robinson, '08, and Samantha Lambert, '11, assisted. Their work is available on Berea's website: <http://www.berea.edu/hutchinslibrary/specialcollections/hc28.asp>.

Evidence indicates that Berea College founder Rev. John G. Fee may not have been a great supporter of Lincoln. The sentiment was revealed in a letter written by Fee to the editors of *The Principia*, a weekly published during the time Lincoln was seeking re-election in 1864—a document Travis turned up in his research and plans to use in his exhibit.

"Fee is not very excited about seeing Lincoln re-elected in 1864. Here we are in the height of the Civil War, and the country is still kind of teetering on the balance," says Shannon. "Fee is from the 'pure abolition ground,' as Frederick Douglass would call it, and Lincoln, who supported colonization, doesn't measure up very well on that point. Yet, for myself, I think Lincoln would have been immeasurably proud about who we are at Berea and what we do."



Michelle Towles, CX '11

Photographs of Abe Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln appear alongside the bow tie that the President wore.



Roy Puckett, '11

Travis Blankenship holds a gold 1909 coin commemorating the 100th birthday of Abraham Lincoln. Born in 1809, Lincoln would have been 200 years old this year.



Michelle Towles, CX '11

This small colorized portrait from the 1860s was a gift of Mrs. John A. Shedd.



Roy Puckett, '11

The bronze bust of Lincoln was one of two that sat in Lincoln Hall.

Berea's Lincoln Links

■ Lincoln Hall

Built in 1875 as Recitation Hall and later renamed, this building originally served as the main classroom building at Berea College. It is now the administration building and is on the U.S. National Historic Landmark list.

■ The Boy Lincoln

This 1867 pastel portrait by American artist Eastman Johnson was a gift to the College in 1908, prior to the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's birth. It originally hung in the Lincoln Room of the Frost Building (the second building to house the College library), and now hangs in the Hutchins Library Special Collections and Archives reading room. Two bronze busts of Lincoln are also part of the College's Lincoln Collection.

■ Shedd/Schwarzschild Lincoln Collection

A collection of works on Abraham Lincoln is housed in Hutchins Library's Special Collections and available for scholarly research. The compilation began in 1935 as a memorial gift of 500 volumes collected by John Shedd, an attorney from New York City. It has been added to over the years, including an important collection from civil rights attorney Henry Schwarzschild in 2000. It now contains more than 1,800 books and other printed works. New books about Lincoln are regularly added to the collection as well as to the books in general circulation.

■ Abraham Lincoln Historical Collection

Twenty-one boxes are full of materials, including numerous photographs, memorabilia, artifacts, and other period pieces supplementing the book collection. Of particular interest is an original letter written and signed by Lincoln in 1851.

■ Lincoln Institute

Although the Lincoln Institute is not on Berea's campus, but it has a long history and association with Berea College as an alternative educational institute for African Americans. Located in Simpsonville, Kentucky, Lincoln Institute was created at the time when Kentucky's legislature outlawed interracial education. For more information, visit the Berea College Public Relations news archives where readers can find stories on Dr. Andrew Baskin's research and *Berea College Magazine* alumni stories from Lincoln Institute and Berea College (Winter 2006).

For all things Lincoln, national and state celebration events and activities, links, and much more, visit the Kentucky Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission site at www.kylincoln.org

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://www.berea.edu/alumni>

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Outstanding Alums Honored

During Summer Reunion, both Bill Best and Violet "Vi" Farmer received Distinguished Alumnus Awards.

After earning his degree in physical education and biology, **Bill Best, '59**, went on to earn a master's degree in physical education from the University of Tennessee, specializing in modern dance. When Bill and his wife, Irmgard Schneider Best, '71, returned to Berea, he was director of alumni, and coordinator of student activities, and the couple served as co-directors for Pearsons Hall. Bill coached swimming and cross country during the 1960s and taught aquatic art during many short terms. He used his talents as a choreographer for Berea Players productions and the outdoor musical *Wilderness Road*.

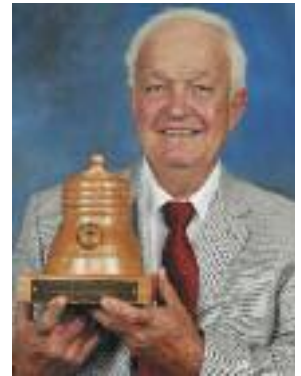
From 1966-68, Bill oversaw Project Torchlight, a federally funded program that preceded Upward Bound. In 1972, he became chairman of the Kentucky Upward Bound Directors Association, ultimately spending 16 years with the program. In the 1980s he published several essays and stories about life in Appalachia and sat on the advisory board of the Appalachian Writers Association. In 2002, he retired from the College after 40 years.

Instrumental in the local foods movement, Bill helped to launch the Lexington and Berea farmers' markets. On his farm near Pilot Knob in Madison County, Kentucky, he grows heirloom beans and tomatoes. To help other Appalachian farmers, he started the Sustainable Mountain Agriculture Center, which strives to model agricultural diversification and use of the whole farm. In 1997 he received the Kentucky Master Conservationist Award, and in 2003 he received the Keeper of the Flame Award by Southern Foodways Alliance.

Violet "Vi" Farmer, '61, Berea resident, was raised on a livestock and tobacco farm in Laurel County, Kentucky. She and William "Jack" Farmer, '55, raised their three sons in Berea after Vi received her degree in elementary education. She later earned her master's degree from Eastern Kentucky University.

For 29 years, Vi taught at the intermediate level at Berea Community School. For 15 of those years, she worked with gifted students, having received her gifted and talented specialist certification from the University of Connecticut. In 1970, she received Teacher of the Year for the Berea area. While at Berea Community School, Vi supported International School-to-School Experience, an exchange program for sixth-graders to promote world peace, and took students to Guatemala and Mexico. She served three elected terms as president of the Berea Education Association and served on the governor's task force to write guidelines for Kentucky's gifted education program. She retired from teaching in 1994.

Always interested in government, Vi ran for Berea City Council in 1983 and still holds her seat, having been re-elected 12 times. Among other work, she was instrumental in forming the sister region relationship through the Madison County International Committee and served on the board of the American Committee for the Kiyosato Experiment Project. An active participant in professional and civic organizations, Vi was honored as one of the Outstanding Women of Madison County in 1987, was the Kentucky applicant for the "First Teacher in Space" for the ill-fated Challenger mission, and was named Madison County Woman of the Year in 1994.



Bill Best



Violet "Vi" Farmer

SUMMER REUNION 2009

One for the Records



This was a reunion like no other. We survived the continual threat of thunderstorms, 84% humidity, and even a mandatory lock down of the campus during an attempted armed robbery of the Berea Credit Union. If you missed it, you will have to ask a friend what happened. We don't intend to repeat those conditions!

Here is something we do hope to repeat, if not surpass. This summer a record number of alumni—469!—returned to campus to renew friendships and wedding vows and to pass around warm hugs. On Friday, following a picnic on the Quad, the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center and the *Appalachian Heritage* quarterly celebrated the life and work of the late Jim Wayne Miller, '58, a pioneer in Appalachian studies and literature.

On Saturday, the class of 1959 celebrated their 50th reunion at the home of President and Mrs. Shinn. After reunion lunches, attendees met up with their classmates in Phelps Stokes Chapel for a reunion convocation and the rededication of the newly restored 10-bell Menelly Chimes.

An alumni awards reception was held for recipients of the Distinguished Alumnus Awards given to Bill Best and Violet Farmer. During convocation, a check for \$282,169.52, representing the combined gift of all the summer reunion alumni classes, was received by President Shinn on behalf of the College.

At the Summer Gala, held following the alumni award reception, alumni and their family and friends danced the night away.



photos by LeAnna Kaiser, '12, Ray Puckett, '11, and Tinsley Carter, '05



SUMMER REUNION 2009

To see the names of these smiling faces, log onto: www.berea.edu/alumni/summerreunion/galleries.asp
Click on the class photo to view the name.







All class photos by Tinsley Carter, '05

Berea College

HOMECOMING 2009

November 13-15

Welcome Back! Special Reunion Classes of 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, and 2009!

Date: _____

Name (as you want it to appear on your name tag—may include maiden name):

Class Year: _____ E-mail (required to receive confirmation): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____ Spouse/Guest's Class Year (if applicable): _____

Guest 2: _____ Guest 2's Class Year (if applicable): _____

Guest 3: _____ Guest 3's Class Year (if applicable): _____

Register by November 6, 2009 for a chance to win a Berea College sweatshirt.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Friday, November 13

- **Alumni Awards Reception, 5:30 p.m.** Meet this year's award recipients at a special reception.

Distinguished Alumnus Award:
Dr. J Dan Patillo, '61

Outstanding Young Alumnus Award:
Della Justice, '93

Honorary Alumnus Award:
Dr. Bill Laramee

Saturday, November 14

- **BereaFEST! 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.** on front lawns of Alumni and Fairchild. Come out and spend time with your friends and enjoy the food, fun, and festivities.
- **Cheer on the Mountaineers! 5:30 p.m.** in Seabury Center. Show your Berea spirit and watch the women's AND men's basketball teams. **BASKETBALL TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT SEABURY CENTER HALF AN HOUR BEFORE THE WOMEN'S GAME.** Ticket prices have been reduced to \$5.
- **Alumni Mixer after the men's basketball game** in Baird Lounge, Alumni Building. Mingle with classmates while enjoying appetizers and watching a slideshow of photos from the special reunion class years.

Sunday, November 15

- **Alumni Worship Service, 10:30 a.m.** in Union Church with reunion minister Rev. Dr. Bradley Pace, '97. Special performances by the Alumni Chapel and Concert Choir directed by Dr. Stephen Bolster.

*** For a pre-printed name tag, early reservations must be made by NOVEMBER 6, 2009. Name tags will be available for pick-up at the Alumni Building beginning November 13. Visit your alumni website at www.berea.edu/alumni and click on Homecoming to view a complete schedule and pre-register online. Registration forms must be postmarked by November 6 (in order to ensure a pre-printed name tag) and sent to: Berea College Alumni Relations, CPO 2203, Berea, KY 40404, or FAX to 859.985.3178, or call 1.866.804.0591.

About Berea People

1942

Roberta Larew Allison performs volunteer work and is active in FOOTMAD (Friends of Old-Time Music and Dances). She has four children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. She resides in Charleston, WV.

1944

Annabel Brake Clark enjoys keeping up with Berea classmates **Eloise Loftis Woodruff**, **Jean Dodson Stewart**, **Ella Edwards Doughton**, and **George Blake**, '46. She and Bob, her husband, reside in Denver, CO.

Avis Jarrell Shaffer Triplett, Cx '44, is a retired dental hygienist. She resides in Charleston, WV.

1946

Raymond A. Bradbury, Acad '46, and **Claranelle Blackburn Bradbury**, '52, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in November 2008. They reside in Lexington, KY.

1948

Ernest R. Raines is retired. He was a teacher, principal, and superintendent. He was a prisoner of war during World War II at Stalag for 19 months. He and Shirley, his wife, reside in Breaks, VA.

1950

Dr. Grover Miller is a retired professor emeritus of North Carolina State University where he taught for 37 years. He is a veteran of World War II and in 1995 received Berea's Distinguished Alumnus Award. He volunteers for the local Heritage Library and is an elder of his church. He and Judy, his wife, reside in Smithfield, NC.

1952

Claranelle Blackburn Bradbury, '52, and **Raymond A. Bradbury**, Acad '46, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in November 2008. They reside in Lexington, KY.

1959

Rachel Keen is a professor in the psychology department at the University of Virginia. In January 2009 she was awarded an honorary degree from Uppsala University in Sweden, one of the oldest universities in Europe. She received a diploma, a gold ring, a crown of laurel leaves; and a cannon was fired in her honor when the award was made. She resides in Charlottesville, VA.

Rev. Reginald Martin is directing the Living Word Outdoor Drama, Ohio's Passion Play, in Cambridge, OH for the

2009 season, which runs from June through September. He resides in Zanesville, OH.

1960

Judy Meek Harwood, Cx '60, published her memoir, *Swimming Upriver*. The story chronicles her family's life in the eastern Kentucky mountains during the 1940s and 50s. She resides in Lancaster, NY.

Alaska's largest press association has renamed its esteemed First Amendment Award after two crusading journalists, **Tom Snapp**, '60, (deceased) and Howard Rock. The two helped change the course of Alaska's state history in the latter half of the 20th century.

1961

Dr. Harold Molineu retired from Ohio University's department of political science in 2004. He is teaching part-time and directing an internship program with the National Assembly for Wales in Cardiff, UK. He periodically teaches at the University of Wales and serves as the interim dean of Ohio University's Honors Tutorial College in Athens, OH, where he resides.

1962

Don R. Hirschman, Fd '62, BC '67, was installed as the president of Congregation Emanu-El this year. He is on the teaching faculty at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City and is working on a research project to improve the quality of care for cataract surgery patients in the Veterans Health Administration at University of Kansas/Veterans Administration. He and Jana, his wife, reside on 15 acres in Derby, KS.

1963

Donald L. Davis, Sr., Cx '63, retired in December 2008 after spending 39 years as Vice President for Employment and Training with the National Council on Aging. He and Johelen, his wife, reside in Fairfax Station, VA.

1964

E. Gail Wilson Chandler has written a poetry chapbook from Finishing Line Press, *Where the Red Road Meets the Sky*, which was out in May 2009. She resides in Shelbyville, KY.

Jerry H. Proctor is retired from the *Lexington Herald-Leader* Company after 41 years of service. At the time of employment, he was a computer programmer. He resides in Lexington, KY.

1965

Garry Barker received the Southern Highland Craft Guild's 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award, the organization's highest honor. His latest book of fiction, *Kentucky Waltz*, won the 2008 Kentucky Literary Award for Fiction from Western Kentucky University and the Southern Kentucky Book Fest. His newest book, *Head of*

the Holler: Volume I, is a collection of newspaper columns. He and Danetta, his wife, co-own the *Flemingsburg Gazette*, a Kentucky weekly newspaper. They reside in Flemingsburg.

1966

Iverson Warinner was featured in the Winter 2009 magazine of Spalding University where he teaches and instructs graduate-level classes in business communication. He received the Board of Trustees Outstanding Faculty Award in 2008. While on sabbatical, he is enrolled in the theology and arts master's degree program at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

1967

C. Jean Morgan is an active board member of the Berea Arts Council. She resides in Berea, KY.

1969

Ernest Brinegar retired from Schott Glaswerke, manufacturer of technical glass products, after 16 years. He is now employed with Industrial Origami, a high-tech firm which specializes in bending and folding metal solutions for industry. He serves as an instructor with Via De Cristo (Way of Christ), a religious retreat. He resides in Elizabethtown, KY.

1970

Gerald Moss' work of fiction, *Sgt. Beall's Squad*, has been released by GG Publishing. It follows some timelines and battles of the American Civil War. He resides in Berea, KY.

1972

Bill Broome has taught physical education at Safety Harbor Elementary School in Safety Harbor, FL for 34 years. This year he was recognized at the school for his impact on the community. He resides in Clearwater, FL.

Margaret Kennamer Cox and David, her husband, were awarded a national conservation award by the Daughters of the American Revolution in March 2008. The award was presented for their efforts to restore, reclaim, and beautify an old farm. The electric cooperative magazine for the area featured them in an issue this year. They reside in Grant, AL.

1973

Brenda Kaye Edwards Barrett volunteers for a free clinic in Virginia Beach, VA, where she resides. She credits Berea College for teaching her the importance of community service.

Ray Landers is an associate superintendent for Attalla City Schools in Alabama. In his 31 years in education he has won several awards including 2008 Alabama Middle School Principal of the Year, 2006 Boaz Chamber of Commerce Educator of the Year, and inclusion in the Jacksonville State University Teacher Hall of Fame. He and **Ann Kennamer Landers**, '74, reside in Tusculum, AL.

1974

Allan Barger has been a trainer and research analyst with the non-profit Prevention Research Institute for 15 years. He and Gregory Scott, his partner, reside in Palm Springs, CA.



Thomas Snapp,
'60



Judy Meek
Harwood, Cx '60



Garry Barker, '65

Roger Marcum is executive vice president of St. Catharine College in St. Catharine, KY. In June 2009 he retired as superintendent of Marion County Public Schools. He resides in Lebanon, KY.

1975

Sandra Owens-Fleming works for Sodexo as a patient service manager at the University of Chicago Hospital. She received an MBA from Argosy University in Schaumburg, IL last year. She resides in Hillside, IL.

1977

Raymond Kanem "R.K." Malinké is a foreign service specialist for the U.S. Department of State. He retired from the military in 1996 and was a security specialist for the diplomatic security for the U.S. Department of State from 2005-07.

1978

Lynne Blankenship Caldwell earned a doctorate of ministry in church leadership from the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC in May 2009. She and Neill Caldwell, her husband, will lead a tour group to Germany for the Passion Play in 2010. They reside in Richmond, VA.

1980

Dr. Michael Graham received a master of nursing degree from the University of Minnesota in December 2008. He completed a clinical immersion in emergency/trauma nursing at Hennepin County Medical Center, Minneapolis, and earned his public nursing certification in April 2009. He resides in Excelsior, MN.

1982

Betty Lou Eggleston Fox is a volunteer coordinator at Staunton River High School. She, her husband Michael, and son Neil reside in Moneta, VA.

1983

Married: Sherrie Hall Lorenz to Anthony Lorenz in June 2008. She is a charge nurse in the Family Birth Center in Auburn, CA where she and her husband reside.

Julie Hudson Norcross is a first grade teacher at Graham County Schools. She begins her master of education program through Piedmont College, GA in the fall. She and John, her husband, reside in Robbinsville, NC.

1984

Chaplain Major Joey T. Byrd was selected to serve as the 1st Armored Division Deputy Chaplain in Wiesbaden, Germany. He and **Rev. Dr. Carol Byrd**, '82, his wife, are ordained clergy of the Presbyterian Church (USA). They have two daughters and a son.

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 the alumni. *BCM* reports the news you wish to share with your alumni friends and associates. "About Berea People" reports changes in careers, addresses, weddings, retirements, births, and other items of importance to our alumni. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. 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.berea.edu/alumni.

1987

Dr. Denette Olivia Cooke is a certified veterinary acupuncturist. She resides in Chesapeake, VA.

1989

Stephen Duckett is the director of the Buncombe County office of the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service. He resides in Leicester, NC.

1991

Randy Johnson, BSN, RN, MBA is Chief of Quality Management Service at the VA Medical Center in Louisville, KY. He was interim chief quality management officer for the Veterans Integrated Service Network 9, which includes Kentucky, Tennessee, and Huntington, WV. He resides in Louisville, KY.

1993

Birth: a son, Luke McKinley Best, to **Karen Merriman Best** and Jerry Best on June 24, 2008. She is a service coordinator at Bluegrass IMPACT. They have another son, Jake Larue Best, and reside in Harrodsburg, KY.

Adam Howard is teaching in the education department at Colby College in Waterville, ME, where he resides.

Birth: a son, Max Owen Donald Jennings, to **Ted Jennings** and Wendy Jennings on March 15, 2009. The family resides in Cincinnati, OH.

1994

Birth: a son, Vidhipraua, to **Wayan Mastriyana** and **Nyoman Wati Mastriyana**, Cx '98, in October 2008. They have another son, Vidyaproya, and reside in Richmond, VA.

Mary Kinney Vannus teaches American Sign Language at Sinclair Community College in Dayton, OH. Harry, her husband, is a neonatal nurse practitioner at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton. They reside with their children, Luke and Arianna, in Pleasant Hill, OH.

1995

Lt. Charlotte Mundy took command of USCGC MAUI (WPB 1304) in May 2008 and was deployed to the Northern Arabian Gulf in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Joe T. Rowe is the area innovation center director for Morehead State University and the Kentucky Highlands Entrepreneur Center. He resides in Campton, KY.

1996

Married: Ishani Kulatilaka to Jonathan Rivers on August 22, 2008. She is a software and analytics developer. They reside in Alexandria, VA.

Robyn Lowe is serving in Zambia with the International Mission Board in a community and home outreach evangelism ministry.

Birth: a son, Sebastian Paul Willis, to **Christy Henry Willis** and **Tim Willis** on August 30, 2007. The family resides in Soddy Daisy, TN.

1997

Birth: a son, Miles Benjamin Higgins, to **Dean Higgins** and Beth Mainwaring, his wife, on April 15, 2009. The family resides in Chapel Hill, NC.

Birth: a daughter, Yanchi Lee, to **Kokming Lee** and **Lisa Morimoto**, '98, on November 27, 2008. The family resides in Hong Kong.

1998

Lauren H. Earles is a recreation center leader at Knoxville Parks and Recreation Department. **Barbara Cromer Earles** is a service advisor at Knoxville Utilities Board. They reside with their sons, Jaiden Bishop and Keegan Isaiah, in Knoxville, TN.

Birth: a daughter, Hannah Marie Lakes, to **Chris Lakes** and **Stephanie Hannah Lakes**, '03, on March 26, 2009. The family has twin boys, Davis and Dawson, and resides in Berea, KY.

1999

Michael "Bo" Mason and **Victoria Bowyer Mason** have been married 11 years. They reside in Louisville, KY.

2001

Birth: a son, George Patrick, to **Linda Sexton Hieneman** and George Hieneman on November 10, 2008. The family resides in Greenup, KY.

2002

C.E. (Catherine Elaine) Morgan published her first novel with Farrar, Straus & Giroux in 2009. Her book, *All the Living*, has been nationally reviewed. Morgan is a graduate of Harvard Divinity School and lives in Berea, KY.

Deborah Payne wrote a research article for the *Australian Journal of Rural Society* about Katosi women who train to be masons for building ferro-cement water tanks. She ended her service to the Peace Corps in May and spent a month visiting friends in Europe before coming back to Berea in the summer.

2003

Birth: a daughter, Hannah Marie Lakes, to **Stephanie Hannah Lakes** and **Chris Lakes**, '98, on March 26, 2009. The



Chaplain Major
Joey T. Byrd, '84



Robyn Lowe, '96



Ishani Kulatilaka, '96 and
Jonathan Rivers

family has twin boys, Davis and Dawson, and resides in Berea, KY.

Markesha Flagg McCants was selected to participate in the National Contract Management Association's Leadership Development Program. She is a contract specialist with the U.S. Department of Energy and has an MBA from the University of Tennessee. She and Ricardo, her husband, reside in Knoxville, TN.

2004

Scott Caudill, SFC retired from the Army in 2005 and is employed at his family tool and die business. He and his son reside in Greeneville, TN.

Married: Sarah Van Dorsten to Richard Durham on April 25, 2009. She is employed at Berea College and they reside in Berea.

2008

Robert Fox is a proposal writer at Management Concepts, a business training firm in Vienna, VA. He is working on an MBA from Strayer University and resides in Chantilly, VA.

Married: Stephanie Henry to Nicholas Khani on April 17, 2009. She works with The Scout Association. They reside in London, England.

Tenzin Khandoe resides in Toronto, Ontario.

Married: Rachel Trost to José Medina on January 19, 2009. They reside in Lexington, KY.



Sarah Van Dorsten, '04 and
Richard Durham



Stephanie Henry, '08 and
Nicholas Khani



Rachel Trost, '08 and José
Medina

In Memoriam

The "In Memoriam" 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@berea.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

Laverna Faulkner McClure, Cx '41, of Berea, KY died April 10, 2009. She assisted her late husband, **Dr. L.T. McClure, '41**, who was the College dentist for 27 years. She is survived by Selma Pound, her sister.

William Russell Powell of Berea, KY died February 9, 2009. He worked at Boone Tavern Hotel for 31 years. He is survived by David Powell, Lisa Kelley, and Jennifer Evans, his children.

Dr. Pat W. Wear, Hon '83, of Berea, KY died February 23, 2009. He was a retired Berea College professor, Department of Education Chair from 1950-1980, and an Army veteran. He served as director of off-campus activities, professor of elementary education, director of secondary student teaching, and, after retirement, continued to teach part-time. He was involved in numerous statewide educational projects and authored many publications. He is survived by **Linda Wear Blair, '66**, and **Pat Wear II, '71**, his children.

1920s

Pearl Becker Johnston Crowe, Cx '22, of Nicholasville, KY died March 24, 2009. She was a retired school teacher. She is survived by Josephine Johnston Smith, her sister.

Dr. William J. Arvin, Cx '29, of Lancaster, KY died May 9, 2008. He is survived by Patti Miles Carter Arvin, his wife, and a son.

1930s

Ollie McKinney Arnold, '33, of Petersburg, WV died December 13, 2007. She was a retired school teacher who inspired and motivated her students. She spent much of her life tirelessly serving the community she loved. She is survived by Douglas J. Arnold and Charlotte A. Campbell, her children.

James "Jim" Washburn, Acad '34, of Ennis, MT died December 1, 2008. During World War II he received the Purple Heart, the Navy Citation, the Presidential Citation, the Bronze Star with Valor, the Asiatic Pacific Medal with five stars, and the Marine Corps Unit Citation. He worked for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company until his retirement in 1977. He is survived by Sarah J. Washburn Case, James H.

Washburn, Dr. Roy S. Washburn, and Belinda Washburn, his children.

Lt. Colonel David H. Hill, Acad '35, of Bridgeport, WV died November 10, 2007. He was an Army veteran of World War II and retired from the Army as a Lt. Colonel. He was awarded two Silver Stars, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, 11 Air Medals, the Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman Badge. He is survived by Jacqueline Scott, Terry Gocke, and Dr. James Blair Hill, his children.

Lisle V. Roberts, '37 of Monticello, KY died June 13, 2008.

Pauline Tewell Richardson, '38, of Salem, VA died October 26, 2008. She is survived by Dr. Tom Richardson, her son.

Pearl Leonard Rochelle, Cx '38, of Saint Augustine, FL died March 6, 2009. She is survived by Jacki Knight, her daughter.

Irene Campbell Hendry, '39, of Morristown, TN died December 18, 2006. She is survived by Freida Sempkowski, her daughter.

Walter A. Payne Jr. MD, '39, of Dearborn, MI died April 5, 2009. He was an Army Medical Corps veteran of World War II. He retired in 1997 after 45 years of medical practice. He is survived by Robert B. Payne and Gena E. Callison, his children.

Mack B. Ray, '39, of Burnsville, NC died December 10, 2008. He is survived by **Dorothy Stuart Ray, '39**, his wife.

1940s

Grace Ann DeSimone Reel, Cx '40, of Pittsburgh, PA died April 15, 2009. She was an Army Nursing Corps veteran of World War II and a retired nurse. She is survived by Susan Reel-Panish, Dr. Charles C. Reel, and Lauren Ann Reel-Finn, her children.

Zadi Gannaway Hale, '41, of Wytheville, VA died February 25, 2009. She was a nursing major at Berea. She is survived by **Penny, '64**, Holly, Leslie, Robin, and Chris, her children.

Laverna Faulkner McClure, Cx '41, of Berea, KY died April 10, 2009. She assisted her late husband, **Dr. L.T. McClure, '41**, who was the College dentist for 27 years. She is survived by Selma Pound, her sister.

Olive Gayhart Clark, '42, of Mt. Sterling, KY died April 11, 2009. She was a retired school teacher. She is survived by Ron Clark and Jan Clark, her children.

Martin F. Hoffman, '42, of Ashland, KY died February 21, 2009. When he was a student at Berea he played in the College band and orchestra. He was a Kentucky Colonel and an Army Air Corps veteran of World War II. He retired as an insurance inspector with Equifax in Atlanta, GA after 40 years. He worked more than 10 years as a fiction specialist with the Boyd County Public Library. He is survived by Martin R. Hoffman and Georgia L. Rigsby, his children.

Joy Lord of Pleasant Hill, TN died March 8, 2009. She had been a teacher and office secretary. She is survived by **Charles Lord, '42**, her husband, and three children.

James Riley Russell, Fd '42, of Santa Maria, CA died January 22, 2009. He was a veteran of the Navy. He was in the dry cleaning business for most of his life. He is survived by John William Russell and James Brent Russell, his sons.

Edith Uldene Ballenger Warford, Acad '42, Cx '46, of New Albany, IN died February 21, 2009. She was a retired bookkeeper. She is survived by Evelyn Bishop, her sister.

Richard M. Fischer, Navy V-12 '43 -'44, of Hot Springs Village, AR died March 27, 2009. He was a Navy



Dr. Pat W. Wear,
Hon '83



Pearl Becker
Johnston Crowe,
Cx '22

veteran of World War II. He retired from General Motors, Electro-Motive Division, after 32 years of service. He is survived by Elsie Fischer, his wife, one son, and two daughters.

Sara Elizabeth Bussing Weingartner, '43, of Warrenton, VA died July 15, 2008. She was the first female executive of Sears Roebuck & Co. and retired as a teacher of language arts at Indian Trail Junior High. She is survived by Mary Anne Wassenberg, Frank J. Weingartner, Nancy E. Weingartner, and James L. Weingartner, her children.

Mary Sharp McFee, Cx '44, of Knoxville, TN died March 1, 2009. She is survived by Mary Ellen McFee Alton, '72, and Marshall Thomas McFee, her children.

Frances Dennen Miller, Acad '44, of Elkton, VA died December 30, 2008. She was a retired nurse. She is survived by Sam Miller II, Bill Miller, and Joanne M. McCorkle, her children.

Eva Lena Gooding Strickland, Cx '44, of Radcliff, KY died August 30, 2008. She is survived by Scherry Alexander and Thomas Strickland, her children.

Clyde E. Enix, Acad '46, of Spring Hill, FL died February 15, 2009. He had been a linotype setter for the *St. Petersburg Times*, owned Enix & Sons Dairy, and opened a print shop in Port Richey where he worked until retirement. He is survived by Dale Enix, Dennis Enix, Mark Enix, and Nancy Bently, his children.

Tharon Musser, '46, of New York, NY died April 19, 2009. She was a lighting designer who worked on over 150 Broadway shows. She won three Tony Awards for best lighting design (*Follies-1972*, *A Chorus Line-1976*, and *Dreamgirls-1982*). She is survived by Marilyn Rennagel, her long-time partner.

Garrett Dixon Bailey, '47, of Burnsville, NC died April 10, 2009. He was a Coast Guard veteran of World War II. He practiced law for over 50 years and was inducted into the State Bar Association's General Practice Hall of Fame in 1998. He is survived by Mary Bowman Bailey, his wife of 52 years, a son, and a daughter.

Vera Mable Wright Wheeler, '47, of Paintsville, KY died December 18, 2005. Her husband preceded her in death.

Robert Lee Holt of San Diego, CA died November 12, 2008. He was an engineer and was known for his ability to fix anything. He is survived by **Mary Frances Shafer Holt, Cx '48**, his wife of 58 years, and three sons.

Dorothy Palmer Goode, '48, of Oakton, VA died March 8, 2009. She is survived by Martha Goode, Elizabeth Cate, Clare Tebell, Thomas Goode, Timothy Goode, and Gordon Goode, her children.

Sheridan Lee Hall, '49, of Winston-Salem, NC died November 6, 2008. His hobby of collecting gemstones turned into a small business called Lee Hall Gemstones. He is survived by **Opalee Smith Hall, '46**, his wife of 62 years, two sons and two daughters.

H. Donald Hays, '49, of Tuscaloosa, AL died July 6, 2008. He was an U.S. Air Force veteran of World War II. He taught geology, geography, microclimatology, urban and regional planning, and air-photo interpretation during his tenure at the University of Alabama. He is survived by Martha Hershberger Cade Hays, his second wife, two daughters, and three stepchildren.

Clara Mae Maynard McNeer of Tulsa, OK and widow of **James William McNeer, Cx '49**, died May 12, 2008. She had worked for many years in the banking industry and was loved by many. She is survived by James F. McNeer and Robert W. McNeer, her sons.

1950s

Lois Brice Craft, '50, of Elberton, GA died January 1, 2009. She was a retired elementary school teacher. She is survived by David L. Hulme, her son; Tom Craft, her stepson; and Kay Moreland, her stepdaughter.

E. Bruce Fraley of Berea, KY died April 11, 2009. He was a retired farmer and retired owner of Finnell Furniture. He is survived by **Bettye Finnell Fraley, '50**, his wife, and a son.

Al "Jersey" Miller, '50, of Frederick, MD died January 20, 2009. He was a microbiologist and a member of the Red Cross Hall of Fame. He had 50 years of continuous service with the Boy Scouts of America. He is survived by Donna J. Parkhurst Miller, his wife of 54 years, two sons, and a daughter.

Cora Saylor Nickels, Cx '50, of Henryville, IN died January 23, 2009. She was a homemaker. She is survived by Dr. Richard "Bud" Nickels, David Nickels, and Darrol Nickels, her sons.

Valerie Johnson London, '51, of Chicago, IL died January 10, 2009. She was an actress in local theatres; made commercials for Kirby vacuums, Glidden paint, and other products; and won many local awards. Offstage she was an administrative assistant at the Lakewood Little Theater and the Back Center for the Arts. She is survived by Robert London, her husband of 47 years.

Dr. Theona McQueen, '51, of Mt. Pleasant, SC died January 22, 2009. She was a renowned educator who worked with gifted students, a college professor and lecturer, and author of three books. She is survived by Vanessa McQueen Coker, her daughter.

Dr. Billy "Bill" Kay Richardson, Fd '51, BC '56, of Double Oak, TX died September 6, 2008. He was a U.S. Navy veteran and a psychologist. He received numerous national research awards in the area of rehabilitation counseling. He was a professor at the University of North Texas for 19 years in the School of Community before his retirement. He is survived by Joan B. Richardson, his wife of 44 years, and two daughters.

Gilbert Lavern Thomas, Cx '51, of Orem, UT died March 10, 2009. He was a Navy veteran of World War II. He was retired from Lucent Technology and was a skilled craftsman. He is survived by **Erma Chambers Thomas, Cx '46**, his wife, three sons, and a daughter.

Ruth LaDell Cheney of Worthington, OH died June 28, 2008. She had been an independent real estate broker for 40 years. She is survived by **James Cheney, '52**, her husband of 51 years, a son, and a daughter.

Julia Ray Tipton Fort, '53, of Louisville, KY died April 7, 2009. She was a teacher for 25 years for Jefferson County Public Schools. She is survived by **Ralph G. Fort, '56**, her husband of 54 years, and two daughters.

Juanita Settle, '57, of Horseshoe, NC died February 2, 2009. She worked passionately to preserve mountain lore and crafts and had extensive knowledge of local history and events.

Albert L. Strickland, Cx '57, of Houston, TX died February 8, 2009. He is survived by **Gladys Ann Creech Strickland, Cx '57**, his wife of 54 years, one son, and one daughter.

Connie Hastings Hedden, '59, of Brookville, OH died June 4, 2008. She is survived by **Horace Hedden, '64**, her husband of 46 years, and three daughters.

O. Mancey Harmon, Cx '60, of Crosby, OH died November 29, 2006. He is survived by James Harmon and Laura Harmon, his children.

1960s

Odiellia Warf Curry, Cx '61, of Green County, KY died November 3, 2005. She was a retired school teacher who had taught in the Green County and Taylor County school systems. She is survived by **Margaret Curry Moss, Cx '71**, her daughter.

C.J. Saylor, '61 of Okeechobee, FL died May 10, 2008. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran of the Korean War. He was retired from Hill Floral Products in Cincinnati, OH and was active in Boy Scouts of America. He is survived by **Jeanne Lear Saylor, Cx '53**, his wife of 57 years, three sons, and a daughter.

Lewis Boone Watkins, Fd '62, of Brooksville FL died August 28, 2004. He was an accomplished artist and his artwork is found in the permanent collection of such places as the Vatican Museum in Italy, numerous state capitals, colleges, and universities. He is survived by Mindy Boone, his wife of 25 years, one son, and two daughters.

Joseph Richard Dippery of Westminster, MD died January 11, 2008. He worked as a maintenance manager with numerous apartment complexes. He is survived by **Wilma Jean Hylton Dippery, '63**, his wife of 42 years.

William "Bill" G. Smith of Erlanger, KY died January 2, 2009. He retired from American Airlines after 39 years of service. He is survived by **Clara Fay Williams Smith, '64**, his wife of 45 years.

Philip Martin Owens, '68, of Irvine, KY died January 25, 2009. He practiced law for 36 years and served on various councils and organizations. He is survived by **Virginia "Ginny" Pugh Owens, Cx '68**, his wife of 40 years, and two sons.

1970s

Debbie Elkins Keith, '76, of Gate City, VA died February 10, 2009. She was the school nurse coordinator for Scott County Public Schools and chairperson of the School Health Advisory Committee. She is survived by **Larry Keith, '76**, her husband, and two sons.

1980s

Robert E. Forester, Jr., '80, of Lancaster, TX died June 10, 2008. He is survived by Robert E. Forester, Sr., his father, and two sisters.

Twyla Moore Boyer, '82, of Fries, VA died January 13, 2009. She is survived by Danny G. Boyer, her husband, and a son.



Tharon Musser,
'46



Clara M.
Maynard McNeer



Valerie Johnson
London, '51

Dr. Pat W. Wear, Hon '83, of Berea, KY died February 23, 2009. He was a retired Berea College professor, Department of Education Chair from 1950-1980, and an Army veteran of World War II. He served as director of off-campus activities, professor of elementary education, and director of secondary student teaching. After retirement continued to teach part-time. He was involved in numerous statewide educational projects and authored many publications. He is survived by **Linda Wear Blair, '66** and **Pat Wear II, '71**, his children.

Michael Todd Coughlin, '85, of Meadow Bridge, WV died March 6, 2009. He was a vocational-agricultural teacher. He is survived by **Linda Lou Sparks Coughlin, '85**, his wife, a daughter, and a son.

Athula de Silva, '87, of Silver Springs, MD died December 29, 2008. He was a senior program manager at

Intelsat General Corporation in Bethesda, MD. He is survived by Vinitha de Silva, his mother, a sister, and a brother.

1990s

Mark Anthony Swim, Cx '95, of Georgetown, KY died October 30, 2008. He was a tractor trailer driver for Ryder Systems. He is survived by Melinda Swim, his wife of 15 years, and two children.

2000s

Daniel Joseph O'Connell, '02, of Buffalo, NY died March 24, 2009. He was a Navy veteran of the Gulf War. He is survived by Kathleen and Joseph O'Connell, his parents, one brother, and three sisters.

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Zack at work in the Ecovillage.

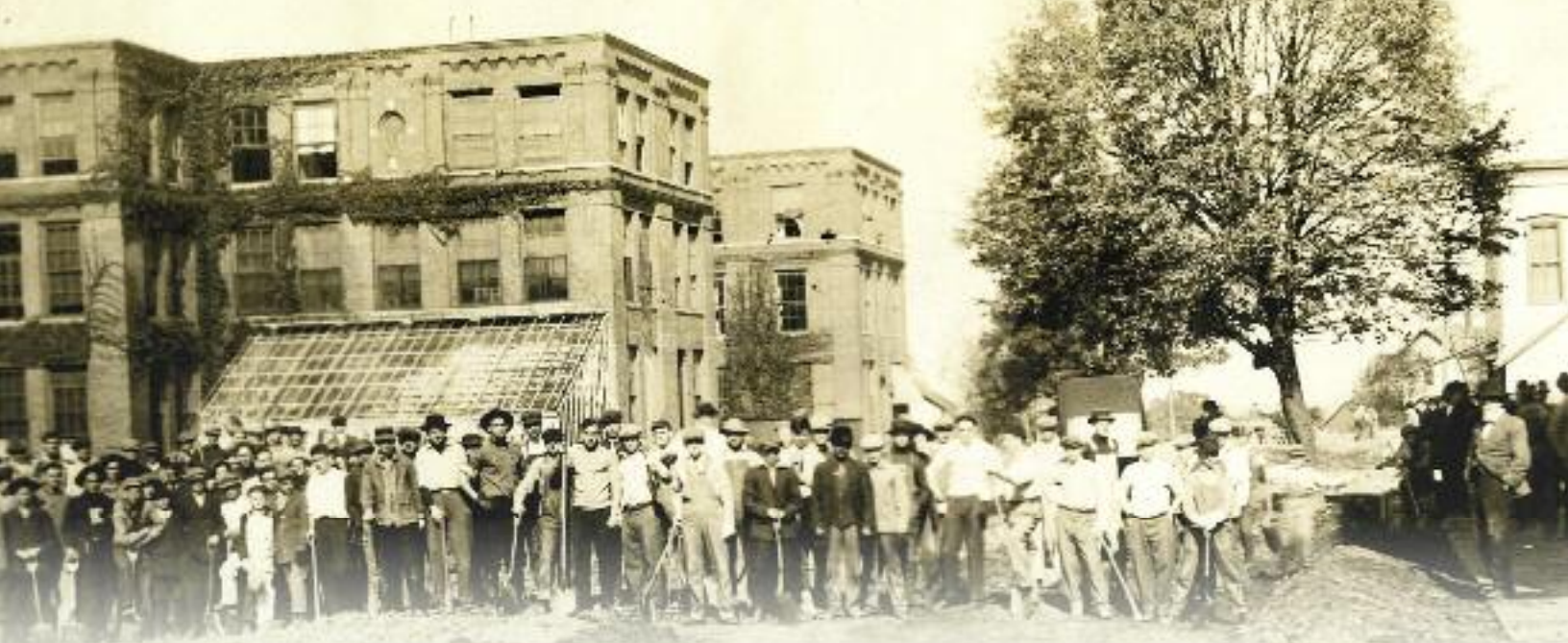
An Orchard of Love for Zack Sieben, '11

In late April, an apple and grape orchard was planted in the Ecovillage by Berea College faculty and students and by a family in memory of their son, Zachary Seiben, '11, who lived in the Ecovillage at the time of his death. Zack died of natural causes on February 10, 2009.

His friends remembered him as an ardent environmentalist, speaking out on behalf of the endangered Appalachian Mountains. Although he had grown up in California, he became active in Bereans for Appalachia and in Kentuckians for the Commonwealth. Yet, the whole world was his cause. He participated in Students for a Free Tibet and Oxfam, an organization that fights global poverty and hunger, among other organizations.

At the ceremony of remembrance and life celebration, Zack's mother, Susan Haas, shared her feelings and memories with the Berea community. "Zack belonged to Berea and he belonged to Kentucky. He was passionate about this school. He loved it here, more than anything else," she said. "No mother wants to give her son away, but I give Zack to Berea, to you. He became a man here. He became a really, really good man here. I thank you and love each and every one of you."

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Alice and Tom Jones, historic re-enactors, portrayed Boone Tavern guests from the early 20th century. They were a part of the ambiance during the hotel's centennial celebration and grand re-opening.