



# Westmar Alumni and Friends Association

Volume 8, Issue 4

November, 2006

## Alumni Board Elects New Members

At the October meeting, three alumni board members were thanked for their help during this past year. Dr. Wayne Marty, Mary Peshek, and Dorothy Klemme will be leaving the board at the end of the year.

Leon Scott's term also expires, but he has agreed to serve another term.

New members to the board are Milt

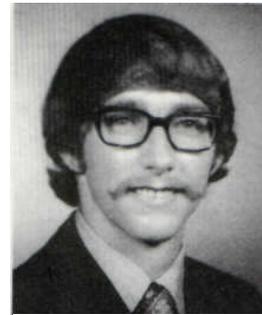
Martin (1953), Paul (1975) and Kathleen (Johnson) Coffin (1976), and Rosemary Radloff (1993). They will begin their duties in January.

Other board members are Jane (Hansen) Brown (1975), Kaylyn (Busch) Pick (1988), and Jeff Neary (1981).

Anyone who would like to be considered for a board position should contact the Wafa office or any one of the board members.

There will be three vacancies at the end of 2007.

The alumni board meets quarterly, with the next meeting scheduled for January 23, 2007 at the Plymouth County Historical Museum in Le Mars. All alumni are welcome.



Paul Coffin ('75)



Milt Martin ('53)



Dr. Wayne Marty, Mary Peshek, and Dorothy Klemme are retiring from the alumni board.



Rosemary Radloff



Kathy Coffin ('76)

## Summer 2007 Reunion Being Planned

It may seem like a long way off, but the reunion for next summer is just around the corner for those planning it.

The decade of the 1990s, Fine Arts (band, chorale, and drama) from all decades, and wrestlers from all decades will meet on July 14, 2007 to share memories and get reacquainted with old friends. Faculty, staff, and administration from the 1990s will also be included.

Notices are being sent out to those for whom we have mailing addresses. Notices by e-mail are going to those who have current e-mail addresses on file with the Alumni Office.

We are also asking that you talk among yourselves and pass on the information since we don't have contact information for everyone.

Some of the activities being planned are a campus tour, wrestling picnic with Milt Martin, chorale practice and performance with Frank Summerside, and an evening banquet.

A preliminary schedule can be found on the Wafa website ([www.westmarcollege.org](http://www.westmarcollege.org)). Note change of website address.

Registration can be made by mail or by using a credit card and the Wafa website.

Registrations before April 1, 2007 will be at a discounted rate.

At this time we don't have information about the 50-year reunion for the class of 1957, but it will be next summer also. Information will be available on the Wafa website and by mail as soon as the arrangements are made.

### Inside this issue:

Alumni News & Deaths	2
Transcripts & Credentials	2
Bricks & Mortar & More	3
Westphal Tells His Story	4
Westmar in Your Will	5
Website Moves	5
Membership as Gift	5
White Shirt Closeout	5
Membership Form	6
Contact Info	6



# Alumni News

## News

**1953-Wayne Marty** has temporarily returned to teaching after being retired for 12 years. He is teaching two microbiology classes for Morningside College in Sioux City during the current semester.

**1960-Eula (Wulfkuhle) Butler** is a Parish Nurse at First Baptist Church in Stockton, Calif.

**1970-Joseph Kraher** has accepted the appointment of Governor Edward Rendell to sit on the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, PA Rehabilitation Council.

**1976-Stan Dickman** has been named president and COO of Harker's in Le Mars.

**1976-1985-Patrick White** has been elected as president of Wabash College in

Crawfordsville, Ind. and also serves as professor of English.

**1977-Bob DeHaan** of Orange City has been named the Iowa Outstanding Ag Ed Teacher for 2006.

**1979-Henrietta (Vander Kolk) Klarenbeek** is Chaplaincy Services Coordinator at Mary Greeley Medical Center in Ames and is also a Board Certified Chaplain.

**1983-Karen (Trapp) Seaton** has obtained a master's degree in special education and teaches at Stoughton High School, Stoughton, Wis.

**1984-David Seaton** has obtained a master of accountancy degree, has become a CPA and is currently working as Portfolio Manager with US Bank in Madison, Wis.

**1994-Camden Coble**, Oklahoma City, has been married for eight years and has two children.

**1997-Brad Berendes** owns a marketing business in Omaha.

**1997-Danita Salone** is living in Chicago and is an admission counselor in higher ed.

**1997-Judy Wittkop** has obtained a master's degree in the Arts and Pastoral Ministerial program at Mt. Marty.

## Deaths

**1930-Kathryn M. (Schultz) Maggrett**, died on Nov. 27, 2005.

**1936-Grace M. (Tindall) Feuerhelm** of Merrill, passed away on July 16, 2006.

**1935-Edith (List) Delperdang** of Remsen passed away on Oct. 12, 2006.

**1938-Myrne (Detloff) Bogh** died on August 17, 2006 in Remsen.

**1941-Marie (Ludwig) Steen** of Remsen died on Nov. 23, 2005.

# Obtaining Transcripts or Credentials

Grade transcripts for graduates of Western Union College, Westmar College, Teikyo Westmar University or Westmar University are now stored at the University of Iowa in Iowa City, Iowa. To get a copy of your transcript you must complete a request form and remit \$12.00. There are three options for doing this.

### 1. Request a form in writing

Registrar's Office  
University of Iowa  
1 Jessup Hall  
Iowa City, IA 52242

### 2. Request a form by phone

(319) 335-0230

### 3. Download a form from U of I website

[http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/forms/transcript\\_form.pdf](http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/forms/transcript_form.pdf)

Copies of Credentials may be obtained from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa one of three ways.

#### 1. By phone

(712) 274-5106

#### 2. By fax

(712) 274-5101

#### 3. By mail

Morningside College  
Education Department  
1501 Morningside Ave.  
Sioux City, IA 51106

Reminder – If you've moved, gotten married or divorced, changed e-mail addresses, changed phone numbers, or had a spouse die, please let us know the correct information so we can record it on our database. Please use the form below or e-mail us at [westmar@lemarscomm.net](mailto:westmar@lemarscomm.net).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_



# Bricks and Mortar and More

## Union Hall

by Dr. Wayne Marty and Mary Holub

“Union Hall, the College Dormitory, was opened for occupancy January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1904. This is the student’s home and is situated at the northwest corner of the campus. In outward appearance it resembles an ordinary dwelling. The second and third floors contain large, well lighted student rooms. On the ground floor are the kitchen, the large dining hall and the parlor. The building is new, clean and modern, being provided with furnace heat, electric lights and bath with hot and cold water. It accommodates 25 students with rooms and 50 or more for boarding.” – From the 1914 Western Union Pilot (yearbook), p 41.

The adjectives in the 1914 description raise interesting questions. What is a large room? What is modern? What is a well lighted room? The answers were probably very different from the standards of today. Originally, this first dormitory was “co-ed” with women living on third floor and men on second. In those early years, most of the students found “Rooms for Rent” in the residential homes of Le Mars. After Wernli Hall was built in 1925, Union Hall became a Men’s residence Hall and in the 40’s and 50’s “Union Stables” was often heard as the nickname for the “old” wooden frame building. In 1964 the building was demolished because it was considered to be unsafe and inadequate as a college residence hall. However, it housed students for nearly 60 years and where there are college students there will be stories to remember.

Clarence (Skip) Westphal (Class of 1927 and probably the oldest Alumnus and WAFSA member at age 102) lived in Union Hall with his older brother Earl. He remembers getting together in one of the rooms with upperclassmen Golden Thompson and Harry Kalas to talk about plans for their future. They may not have realized that in later years, Kalas and Thompson would be prominent leaders as President and Academic Dean of Westmar College.

Alice Kruse (Class of 1929) tells of her days in the new Wernli Hall when the girls (always at least two, and not one at a time) would go to the basement of Union Hall and pump water from the cistern that collected roof drain rain water, and carry it back to Wernli so they would have nice soft water for washing their hair.

In the fall of 1947 most of the Union



Union Hall Dormitory (from the 1914 Pilot Yearbook)

Hall residents were football players who came to school early for practice. The new Men’s dormitory was nearly completed and was expected to be ready for the other men students when they arrived (However, that did not quite happen, and all of the potential Men’s Dorm residents lived together among the rows of bunk beds in the gymnasium for a number of weeks before the dorm was ready.) Dave Schneider (Class of 1951) was one of those football players that lived on the second floor of Union Hall in 1947 and became a student proctor for the facility during his sophomore year (1948). Dave remembers the beautiful spring weather when he and his roommate, Rollie Utzinger, would climb out the window and “study” on the roof of the north facing porch. Dave also remembers his “not so comfortable days” as proctor when he heard an unusual irregular “thump” sound coming from third floor. After cranking up enough courage to investigate he arrived at the top of the stairs and heard a “swoosh” go by his head. Dave found a class mate (from Brooklyn, New York) who was using the hall to practice his “knife throwing”. Numerous knife marks were in the door at the end of the

hall. Dave also faced the tough task of responding to the sound of “clinking glassware” and having to confront his own peer football players as he enforced the strict “No Alcohol” policy of the college.

Lowell and Grace Pieper used Union Hall for their “Honeymoon Cottage” following their Easter wedding in 1953 and until graduation in May. They provided no more details.

Ardith Faber Hill (1955) recalls, “One of the uses for Union Hall in ’52 and ’53 was roller skating. We had some good times. I hope it was legal!”

We invite your additional memories or corrections to this Union Hall story and your notes will be added to the Union Hall Archive File.

In the next newsletter we will discuss the original gym built in 1909. Your comments and memories are welcome.



# Clarence “Skip” Westphal – Oldest Alumnus – Tells His Story

The most important event of my life was when at the age of ten during a revival meeting I found the Lord in the little country church which my family attended. That event affected my entire life and after graduating from High School, I attended Western Union/Le Mars College. I am convinced that all of my success in life was largely due to the teaching I received from the professors at Western Union College.

I had many college friends; one of them was Golden Thompson. After we both graduated, we decided to make a trip to Europe. When our ship arrived in Germany we bought second-hand bicycles and traveled along the Rhine River. Several days after arriving in Heidelberg we sold the bicycles for more than we spent on them, cheap transportation.

After some time in Europe, Golden returned to attend seminary. He was planning on becoming a pastor. I continued to hitchhike all the way across northern Africa.

I then had friends in the East and attended Boston University for a year. I had always had a yearning to experience the life of a sailor. After a year as a sailor, I got a position as a teacher of English in Manchester, New Hampshire. Then I worked for six years at the Golden Rule Farm for problem boys in Tilton, New Hampshire.

Then the war overseas took several years of my time. I was called into the Army but since I was 40 they only kept me for one year so I joined the Red Cross and went overseas to Germany with that so that I might help in that way. What an experience that was!

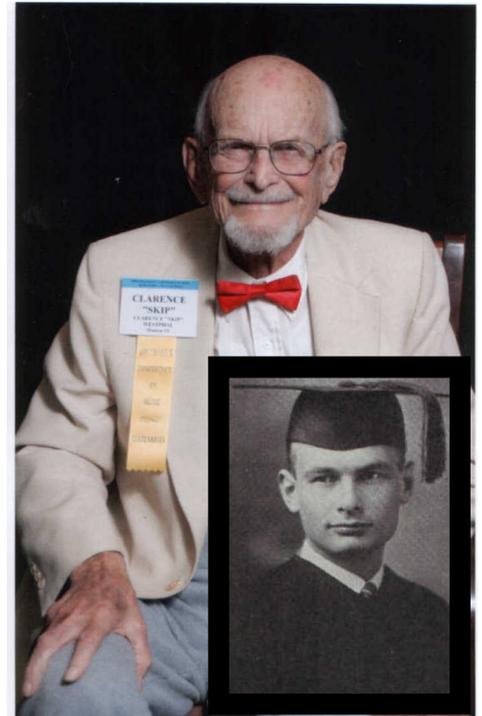
I had always since I was a boy yearned to travel with the circus. I spent a year as a horseman with the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus. I slept on a bale of hay next to my horses and during one of the spec parades I was promoted to be Abraham Lincoln and tip my hat to the crowd as we rode by.

Since I was then still a bachelor I made three trips to Africa. One of my most unusual experiences there was to be bitten by a poisonous puff adder. If I had not been given a shot to prevent the poison from spreading it would have been deadly in about twenty minutes.

After several years of traveling overseas, I finally settled down on my father's farm in Iowa. I taught a Sunday School Class of some twenty young people. One day I got the idea to submit some of my many stories that I used in opening up the Sunday School, as Sunday School superintendent, to the Fort Dodge Messenger in a column entitled, “TRUE TALES TO LIVE BY.” They have since used them every Monday for the last thirty-five years. It is estimated that the Messenger has approximately 18,000 readers.

I was inspired by the words from the Bible in James 4:17. It reads, “To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not to him it is sin.” I think that is a challenge to all of us no matter what our age.

It have had six books published describing my travels but due to the illness of the publisher, I have recently published a book entitled, “TRUE TALES TO LIVE BY”. It contains about one hundred stories describing my travels half way around the world and other stories I have gleaned dur-



**Clarence “Skip” Westphal at 102 at the 2006 Centenarian Convention in Des Moines.**

**Inset: Westphal’s Graduation photo from the 1927 Pilot Yearbook**

ing my lifetime.

At the age of 102, my legs are weak and so I need a walker to get around. My wife takes care of me in our home for which I am very grateful. We have two lovely daughters, both married, adopted Korean Orphans, and what a blessing they have been to us.

Do you have any Westmar items you would like to donate to the Archives or for room display?

Contact Westmar by mail or e-mail. Addresses are listed on the back of this newsletter.



## Westmar in Your Will

Many people choose to make their college a beneficiary of their estate. Even though Westmar has closed, it is still possible to support your college.

If your current will includes Westmar, it is time to make sure that it is amended to read "Westmar Alumni and Friends Association; 335 First Avenue S.W., Le Mars, Iowa."

If you haven't thought about a gift to Westmar, please do so. Just as a guideline, it ought to be worded "I leave \$xxxx to Westmar Alumni and Friends Association; 335 First Avenue S.W., Le Mars, Iowa."

This will assure that your generosity will continue to support the alumni association. Westmar Alumni and Friends Association is a 501(c)(3) and as such we are considered a charitable organization. Speak to your attorney about a gift to your college.

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## Westmar Website Address Changes

Due to some difficulties maintaining the website [www.westmar.org](http://www.westmar.org), we are changing to [www.westmarcollege.org](http://www.westmarcollege.org).

You won't notice any changes in the content. Only the URL address has changed.

Please update your bookmarks and visit the website often.

The website contains a history of the college from its early days until closing in 1997

- Westmar memorabilia for sale
- Links to the Plymouth County Historical Museum, "Missing People," and websites by other people featuring Westmar
- Reunions page listing upcoming reunions
- Membership and "What's Happening" page for printing or for joining online

- How to get Transcripts and Credentials

Any suggestions for content are encouraged. Please contact the alumni office.

The Alumni Association is very fortunate to have Ken Krippner, a 1961 Westmar graduate as our volunteer webmaster. We supply the content, he does the computer work.

## Alumni Membership Makes a Great Gift

Need a gift idea? How about a membership in Wafa. Since the organization is called Westmar Alumni and Friends Association anyone can join. Do you know someone

who isn't a member? Give us their name and we will send them a complimentary issue of our newsletter.



**Sale:** Discontinued white Westmar tee shirts with blue lettering are now on sale for \$10.00 for small, medium, large and extra large, while they last. Sizes 2XL and 3XL are \$12.00.

### Wafa Dues Support These Activities:

- Work with the Iowa College Foundation to administer the Westmar Endowment Scholarship
- Help sponsor and organize Westmar reunions
- Publish Wafa newsletters
- Help maintain displays in the Westmar Room of the Plymouth County Historical Museum
- Maintain Westmar Alumni, Faculty, Staff, and Administration database
- Help maintain the Westmar Memorial Park on the former campus
- Maintain the Wafa web-site

WESTMAR ALUMNI & FRIENDS ASSOCIATION  
335 FIRST AVENUE S.W.  
LE MARS, IOWA 51031



**Alumni Office Staff**

Janice (Dunbar) Kooiker: Executive Director  
Mary Holub: Communications Director and  
Newsletter Editor

*Show your Westmar spirit!  
Do you know classmates or other  
Westmar alums who are not yet  
WAFAs members? Ask them to send  
information and yearly dues to the  
office in Le Mars to be included in  
future mailings.*

**Contact us!**  
**WAFAs e-mail address**  
**westmar@lemarscomm.net**

**Return Service Requested**

Non-Profit Org.  
Bulk Rate  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 95

Be sure to check out our new and improved, ever-changing website at:  
<http://www.westmarcollege.org/>. **Note change of website address.** We  
now offer online shopping, membership, and reunion registration. Sugges-  
tions are always welcome.

**Current Members:** You will receive a postcard when it is time to renew  
your membership. Please pass the form below on to other Westmar Alum  
so they can be part of the momentum also.

**What's Happening with You? Tell Us!**

We are interested in knowing what has recently (or not so re-  
cently) happened in your life. Promotions? Marriage? Births  
or deaths? Honors or awards? Graduate degree? Semi- or  
full retirement? Pass on the information so we can print it and  
spread the good news!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Class year \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse also an alum \_\_\_\_\_

Other relatives also alums \_\_\_\_\_

News (attach a separate sheet if needed ) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: WAFAs  
335 First Ave. S.W.  
Le Mars, Iowa 51031  
Or e-mail to: westmar@lemarscomm.net



**Westmar Alumni & Friends Association**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address, if available \_\_\_\_\_

Attended Westmar \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Class of \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership fee: Single \$15.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Couples \$25.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yearbook copies \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(\$10.00 each)

Maintenance of Westmar Memory Room \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL ENCLOSED** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form to:  
WAFAs  
335 First Avenue S.W. *Please make check*  
Le Mars, Iowa 51031 *payable to WAFAs*

