



# Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 2

May 2012

*May is Graduation and since that is no longer possible—we will look back through the Gleam at some articles in the May issues of past years.*

## Thank you for the support!

Since the state of the Westmar Alumni Assoc. was presented in the February issue several of you have sent donations to help us through this year. Of course our budget is bare bones and we will need to plan ahead for the future but truly appreciate the help that has been given in support of the Westmar Alumni Association.

## WESTERN UNION COLLEGE, LEMARS, IOWA, MAY 19, 1937

Fourteen seniors and thirteen graduates of the Teacher Training department are anticipating Monday, May 31, as the climax of their years of Training. In addition to this number, two students, Esteilo Dunlap and Walter Noack will receive their degrees sometime later this year.



Bishop Stauffacher

The Commencement Exercises will be held in the College Church, Mon. May 31, with Bishop C. H. Stauffacher, of Kansas City, MO., delivering the Commencement oration.

Those receiving their degree of Bachelor of Arts are: Marion Arends, LeMars; Thomas Batho, Seney; Paul Beckman, Sheffield; Victor Draheim, Waseca, MN; Carl Freyman, LeMars; Alice Hulsebus, Eddyville, NE; Dorothy Irwin, LeMars; Virginia Irwin, LeMars; Pearl Lucas, Remsen; Theodore Moritz, Minneapolis, MN; Harriett Peters, Hutchinson, KS; Vernon Rottler, Madison, NE; Evelyn Sohl, Ross, IA;

and Carleton Spencer, Merville.

Those graduating from the Two-Year Teacher Training course are: Louise Albrecht, LeMars; Lois Batie, Butler, SD; Arlene Boysen, LeMars; Mary E. Fuhrman, Oregon, MO; Erma Hockett, Kingsley; Neva Jackson, Dumont; Ethel Kindig, LeMars; Helen Kirkpatrick, Washta; Marion Meyer, Beaver Crossing, NE; Kathryn Russell, Merrill; Margaret Townsend, Revillo, SD; Eileen Wahl, Paton; and Leona Lehner, Martin, ND.

MAY 19, 1937 continued..

VOLUME XXXVI.

## Trustees Make Changes For WU

### Library To Be Moved; To Sound Out Sentiment On New College Name.

At the annual meeting of the Western Union college board of trustees, April 13, many changes in the college program were discussed and made.

It was voted to change the library from the present location to the first floor in the Romance Language, Commercial and Social Science rooms. Later the old library will be renovated into individual office rooms for the various faculty members and possibly a room for the radio studio.

The board also authorized the repairing and remodeling of various rooms among which will be the president's outer-office which will be insulated with the same material as that used in the inner office.

### New College Name?

A committee composed of Dr. D. O. Kime and Dr. A. H. Blue were ordered to contact the alumni of the college to discover their attitude toward changing the name of the college to "Maytag."

## Westmar to graduate 82—June 4 (1962)

### Westmarites leave States

Five Westmar students have made plans taking them to foreign countries within the year.

LeRoy Chittenden, 1962 graduate, begins pre-orientation at Makerere College, Lake Victoria, Uganda, July 1. LeRoy a math major, then will teach for two years in an African country.

Andelyn Jordan has been accepted by Silliman university, affiliated with the Church of Christ, Phillipines, located in Dunate. Andelayn, sophomore humanities major, plans to take Christian education and general education courses there. She plans to complete her senior year at Westmar.

Mike McKenzie left May 24 for Kuala Lumpur, Malaya, where he will attend the University of Malaya. Mike plans to take Economics, Indian studies and Southeast Asian history. He plans to return to Westmar as a senior. His father is with the American embassy in Malaya.

Judy Learning leaves in mid-August for Tokyo and the International Christian university. Judy, an English major, will spend her junior year there.

Wayne Archer was selected for the YMCA "Buildings for Brotherhood" summer work camp in Lima, Peru. Wayne will return to the US in August.

# Bricks and Mortar and More

Bricks and Mortar and More –

## Kime Hall of Science

By Wayne Marty

The launch of Sputnik I, the first man made satellite, by the Soviet Union on October 4, 1957, sparked an increased interest and increased federal funding for Science Education in our nation. The items discussed when I joined Dr. Danner, in 1959, as a Biology Instructor at Westmar included clear indications that a new Science Building would soon be constructed to replace the modified and adapted WW II barracks buildings. Growth of the college enrollment and the increased interest in Science had already caused the Physics Department to be moved out of the “Old Science Hall” so that the Biology Laboratory space could be doubled. Finally in June of 1966 the original President’s House was moved from the space just west of the existing Old Science Hall to enable beginning construction of the new building. By October 1967 the Construction of the new Kime Hall of Science was completed and the move was made into the new building. The base bid, including equipment, was \$981,000. Financing for the building included some Federal Grants and Loans. It was a grand four floor science facility and I remember the comment by Chaplain French while touring the upper floor of the new building, “It has finally happened. Science has risen to a level higher than the church,” as we could stand in a Chem Lab and look down upon the adjacent Calvary College Church. Westmar was approaching its peak enrollment and the building, the new equipment, and the 14 Math and Science faculty members provided an outstanding educational opportunity.

The Math department was located in the basement with 5 classrooms fully equipped with extensive blackboard space and chalk. (Now, 45 years later, that sounds pretty low tech!) One of the new items of equipment was an Electronic Calculator. It was 18” x 22” x 10”, weighed over 40 lbs. and had a base cost of \$600. We paid an extra \$200 to get the special Square Root Function and it had very limited memory. It was a wonderful new machine but not nearly as powerful or useful as a “credit card” size calculator of today. Although the math department began teaching one introductory computer course in 1964 there was no space in the new building dedicated specifically for computer work. But change was coming. Soon one classroom became a computer room with an IBM 1130 mainframe BIG! Computer with BIG! Floor model printer, and associated card punch and card sorting equipment. More space continued to be computer assigned until, in the latter years, only one of the original five basement classrooms remained as a flexible use math classroom. The Faculty Lounge on the basement level was a vibrant place. Faculty from across campus gathered together for casual coffee time conversation and also scheduled interdisciplinary discussions and book reviews.



The Biology Department with fish and frogs, and fruit flies and flowers occupied the main floor with the smells associated with formalin and live mice and microbes. Creative students made the labs a lively place. Steve Strom took the remains of his fully dissected anatomy class rat to the cafeteria table one evening and carefully placed it among a bed of lettuce leaves on the salad bar. It was a practical joke that not all appreciated. Jay Smith and Becky Palmberg used “hormone therapy” to successfully transform gentle hens into pretty handsome roosters. In addition to regular class offerings the rooms became the staging area for preparation and return from the many Marine Study trips led by Dr’s Ulrich, Divelbiss and Marty. A large (maybe 2 ft. total arm spread) octopus was brought back alive from one of the trips and placed in the salt water aquarium. I recall being asked if the 8 armed creature might not crawl out and I indicated that he probably would not leave his comfortable salt water environment for the dry air space beyond the aquarium. BUT HE DID and was found dead on the floor the next day. So I was wrong this one time!! Dr. Danner worked regularly in the “bubble” greenhouse well beyond his retirement years for classroom support and campus beautification.

The second floor Physics labs were the expected mix of challenge and enlightenment. Mr. Cram taught a fascinating Interim course on the “Physics of Toys”. Mr. De Boer had a special talent for creating attention grabber displays in the main entry lobby of the building. The third floor Chemistry labs were fully filled. Dr’s Rebstock, Franklin and Kells prepared many students for higher degree success and notable careers in medicine and research.

The building was designed for a college enrollment of 1000 and more. Westmar reached its peak enrollment of 1169 students in 1968. The 1982 enrollment was down to

**Please check the “Missing” list on our website under Links, and let us know if you can help us “find” somebody.**

[www.westmarcollege.org](http://www.westmarcollege.org)



## Bricks and Mortar cont. from page 2

500 students. Adjustments were necessary. Some of the chemistry space was modified and became home for the Home Economics department with an increased scientific emphasis. The Home Ec Dining Room was labeled "The Food Evaluation Room." Some of the Physics space became the Industrial Arts CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) room. The Business Department Faculty Offices were all moved to the Physics floor. . Some of the Physics space became the campus Media Center. One of the Chemistry labs was abandoned and became a general classroom. When Tarkio College in Missouri closed in 1990 their Theater and Dance Department moved to Westmar and the Kime Auditorium was converted to a full time theater. The popular Faculty Lounge became part of the theater preparation space. Some of the Biology student research area was then modified to a Faculty Lounge.

The building was used for 30 years and when the college closed in 1997 "the Grand Building" became a unique problem for the new owner who was now the City of Le Mars. All of the chemicals in the Chemistry and Biology Departments were considered Hazardous Waste with special disposal challenges. The City moved quickly to hire professionals for disposal task. City departments and the local schools were provided the first opportunity to take and make use of appropriate equipment – computers, microscopes, glassware, etc. Much was simply discarded. The building was advertised FOR SALE soon after the closing but no offer of interest has been completed. Now after 15 years of non-use, on this day of my writing (5-15-12) the Le Mars City Council sold the lots with the building for \$1000 with the expectation that the building will be demolished. This will be difficult to watch but we are thankful that the city has been generous for the 15 years and has permitted the Plymouth County Historical Museum to remove many furnishings for use in the museum renovation work. So the Westmar Room, the Religious Heritage Room, the Genealogy Room, the Registrar's office, and others in the museum will show many of the Kime furnishings in continuing use for many years to come. Time marches on and material goods are always temporary. The good memories will only increase in value.

By Wayne Marty

### Westmar Alumni and Friends Association Board of Directors

Rosemary Radloff '93 & staff (Pres.)	Next Board meetings are: July 16, 2012
Cory Isebrand '88	October 15, 2012
Jan Wagner '76	at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth County Historical Museum's
Phyllis Mitchell '90	Welcome Room. All mem- bers are encouraged to partici- pate in whatever way they can.
Dennis Smith '71	
Linda Smith '71	
Bonnie Lassen '71	
Stuart Fischer ' 84	

## Alumni News

**'64—Ardie A. Davis** and Paul Kirk , two of the foremost experts on barbecue, show how to make championship-quality pork, beef, bison, lamb and mutton ribs at home in their book *America's Best Ribs* on sale in May 2012. It includes tips and recipes for easy, lip-smacking, pull-off-the-bone, pass the sauce barbeque plus sides and desserts.

**'67—Robert W. Seidel** has retired from the University of Minnesota where he taught in the History of Science and Technology Program, and served as ERA Land-Grant Professor of the History of Technology, Director of the Charles Babbage Institute of the History of Computing, and as professor of Chemical Engineering since 1994. He also completed a history of the University's Institute of Technology in collaboration with current CBI director Tom Misa. Emeritus Professor Seidel, plans to spend time in his childhood home of New Mexico in the winter and at his Minneapolis home in the summer.

**Attn'd '53-57—Roberta Schrotenboer Nelson** writes from Wisconsin, that she and spouse Brett have three children, four grandchildren and have been married 50 years!

**'55—Arthur E. Angove D. O. Gen Surgeon Ret.** Writes that in Feb. he had just returned home from examining and treating 2600 school kids and staff in villages around Mombasa, Kenya, East Africa with a medical mission team. Lala salama = sleep peacefully, in Swahili. Love Through Christ Jesus, Art

**'55—Richard Straube** of Colorado writes that he is retired now with Master of Arts from UNC Greeley, CO and post-graduate at U of MI, U of MN, U of N CO, U of WY, and Texas A & I. He has enjoyed great success and enjoyed seeing many classmates at the reunion in 2010.

### Westmar Wrestling Reunion—June 15, 16, 2012

During LeMars Ice Cream Days, Milt Martin and the reunion committee invite the wrestlers to this reunion. Plans are being made for lots of activities including building a float for the Ice Cream Days Parade!

**Decade of the 90's**—August 4th, 2012  
with the **Decade of the '80's** invited to attend.

**Class of '62—50th Reunion** — August 24, 25, 2012  
including the **Classes of '60—'64**

**Information can be found on the website at  
[www.westmarcollege.org](http://www.westmarcollege.org) reunions tab**

For those of you with ties to York College....

### YC LEGACY ALUMNI REUNION

August 7 –9, 2012

Contact Chrystal Houston, director of alumni  
and communications at 402-363-5607 or  
[chrystal.houston@york.edu](mailto:chrystal.houston@york.edu)



## Alumni Deaths

**Western Union** - '48—**Rev. Clarence H. Haber**, 87, of Holton, KS, died Jan 1, 2012. After graduation he attended seminary and later received his Master of Divinity. He served many United Methodist Churches. [www.mercerfuneralhome.com](http://www.mercerfuneralhome.com) Obituaries

**York College**—49—**Mary Alice (Riggs) Allen**, 84, of LeMars and formally of Zumbrota and Isle, MN, died Feb. 23, 2012. With her husband Max, they pastored the Cranston EUB Church in the '50's and in '60 they moved to MN to continue their ministry of service by working for the Volunteers of America, with troubled boys. [www.lemarsdailysentinel.com](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.com)

**York College**—'53—**Clinton G. Carr**, 79, of Lyons, NE, died Mar 21, 2012. In '53 he was drafted into the Army where he served as a Chaplain. 1956—1974 he was a teacher, principal and then Superintendent at Emerson, NE. [www.pelanfuneralservices.com](http://www.pelanfuneralservices.com)

**York College** '55—**Joyce M. (King) Brooke**, 78, of Midwest City, OK, (originally Kansas) died Oct. 7, 2011. She was the wife of Dick for 57 yrs and a gifted pianist and organist. [www.fordfuneral.com](http://www.fordfuneral.com)

'50—**Norine L. (Ripsey) Nott**, 84, of Sioux City, died April 1, 2012. She was a nurse and nursing instructor in Sioux City. [www.meyerbrochapels.com](http://www.meyerbrochapels.com)

'53—**Floyd L. Vick**, 81, of Georgetown, TX, died on April 15, 2012. He was ordained in '57 and served congregations for 55 years. He also served in Vietnam. His wife Myrt '55 pre-deceased him. [www.harrellfuneralhomes.com](http://www.harrellfuneralhomes.com)

'59—**Mary Ann Fara**, 79, of LeMars, died Mar. 7, 2012. She was a teacher until caring for her Mother and later was the activities director at the Good Samaritan Center in LeMars for more than 40 yrs. [www.lemarsdailysentinel.com](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.com)

Attn'd '61—**John (Addink) Steward of Jesus** formerly of Sioux Center and currently of Hutchinson, KS, died Jan 27, 2012. He had been a school teacher, realtor, farmer, pastor and in his later years a painter. [www.siouxcityjournal.com](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com) & [www.lhutchnews.com](http://www.lhutchnews.com)

'64—**Wallace E. Doornink**, 88, of LeMars, died April 6, 2012.. He went on to study at ISU and became head of production at Harkers' in LeMars for 20 years. His wife Marjorie "73 survives him. [www.lemarssentinel.com](http://www.lemarssentinel.com)

'66—**Dorothy (Poppen) Bomgaars**, 90, died Mar 5, 2012. She was formerly of Sioux Center but currently resided in Orange City. She was a teacher. [www.Memorialfuneral-homeinsiouxcenter.com](http://www.Memorialfuneral-homeinsiouxcenter.com)

'70—**Gerald "Jerry" J. Kurth**, 63, LeMars and Okoboji, IA, died April 17, 2012. He was an active businessman beginning with Neets N' Grubs in LeMars and operating the Wharf Restaurant in Okoboji. [www.siouxcityjournal.com](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com)

'72—**Wendell D. Blau**, 61, of LeMars, formerly of George, died Feb 19, 2012. He worked for Harlan Builders until he began working at Wells' Blue Bunny for almost 20 yrs. [www.lemarsdailysentinel.com](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.com)

'72—**Douglas R. Cripps**, 61, of Sioux City, died April 11, 2012. He worked at St. Lukes Regional Medical Center, with security, and several companies in sales. [www.siouxcityjournal.com](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com)

'73—**Dorothy Mae (Locer) Tone**, 94, of Bozeman, MT, formerly of LeMars, died Feb 8, 2012. She enjoyed living in the mountains and taught English. She was the school librarian in several towns. [www.siouxcityjournal.com](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com)

'74—**Peggy J. (Hanson) Hansen**, 60, of Omaha, NE, formerly of Tekamah, NE, died Mar 11, 2012. She taught junior high reading in Tekamah-Herman public Schools for 19 years. Most recently she worked at Floral Dist., Inc. [www.pelanfuneralservices.com](http://www.pelanfuneralservices.com)

### FACULTY/STAFF—

'51-'63—**Dr. Larry Day**, 86, vocal professor emeritus University of Arizona, died Feb 8, 2012 after a valiant battle with cancer. While at Westmar he became the assoc. professor teaching voice, director of college choir, opera, band, orchestra, and various courses including Music Methods, History and conducting. [www.arizonadailystar.com](http://www.arizonadailystar.com)

'75-80—**Dr. Janice Lee Heckroth**, 73, of Des Moines died Dec. 15, 2011. She was a Professor at Westmar College as well as University of Akron and Indiana U of PA. She received multiple awards for writing, research and voluntary work. [www.overtonservice.com](http://www.overtonservice.com)

'87-'90—**Walter "Wally" Rolfes**, 87, of Merrill died Mar. 18, 2012. In addition to farming he had worked at Sioux Tools, Westmar College and M & B Feed Mill. [www.calsenfuneralhome.com](http://www.calsenfuneralhome.com)

**IMPORTANT: Ask yourself and your relatives that attended Westmar or one of the colleges associated with Westmar if it is time to clean out the bookshelf and the storage space by donating year books and other memorabilia to Wafa. We are missing copies of '29, '42, '45, '58 '59, '60, '61, '65, and '75. A number of these have been requested. Your donations will be appreciated by many and your children will not have to deal with them later.**

**Thank you for considering Westmar (Wafa) in your future plans.**

### Contact us!

**Wafa@WestmarCollege.org** (make sure our e-mail address is on your "friends" list)  
<http://www.WestmarCollege.org/>  
**712-546-8759**

**New Wafa Facebook Page from the Wafa office with news and announcements to keep you in touch, and up to date. Please join us at facebook.com Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association—please "LIKE" us.**



## Alumni News...continued

### Westmar Endowment Scholarships Awarded

Westmar Presidential Scholarships of \$5,000 were awarded to **Kathryn Clausen** of Hinton who will be a freshman at Drake University; and to **Christine Gallagher** of Hornick who will be a freshman at Dordt College. In addition, 24 students received \$1,000 awards and 8 students received \$500 each.

Those receiving \$1,000 each, are: **Stephanie Begnoche**, Remsen; **Anne Bomgaars**, Sheldon; **Marissa Childress**, Alvord; **Kimberly De Boer**, Sioux Center; **Kayla Frey**, Sergeant Bluff; **Michael Gallagher**, Hornick; **Marissa Gregg**, Hawarden; **Cayla Herbst**, LeMars; **Jenna Lundsgaard**, Cherokee; **Micah Neary**, Merrill; **Michael Oetken**, Akron; **Jordan Ogren**, Cherokee; **Channing Pick**, LeMars; **Matthew Pitts**, Cherokee; **Austin Roy**, LeMars; **James Rylarrsdam**, Sioux Center; **Melinda Schwanz**, Cherokee; **Jordan Sitzmann**, LeMars; **Christopher Stevenson**, Merrill; **Cody Vander Berg**, Sioux Center; **Lindsey Vander Velde**, Rock Valley; **Amanda Woudstra**, Hospers; and **Tyler Woudstra**, Hospers

\$500 awards were given to: **Erin Baldwin**, Des Moines; **Briana Engebretson**, LeMars; **Anne Epley Birtwistle**, Mason City; **Hillary Haden**, LeMars; **Austin Homan**, LeMars; **David King**, LeMars; **Josh Schreiner**, LeMars; and **Jennifer Theisen**, LeMars for a total of \$38,000 to 34 students who will be attending an Iowa private college or university in academic year 2012-2013.

Westmar became a member of the Iowa College Foundation in 1952 and received funds from ICF while a member. Following the closing of Westmar, in cooperation with the Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association, ICF received over \$700,000 from the Westmar Endowment, to establish an endowment for scholarships.

First consideration is given to students who are current residents of NW Iowa and have a Westmar connection. Other considerations are residents of LeMars and students living outside of the northwest Iowa area but having connections with the former Westmar College. These are also awarded on the basis of a student's academic merit, commitment to community service and leadership qualities. Scholarships are for one year only, but may be renewed. Applicants at any college grade level are eligible, but must plan to attend one of ICF's member colleges as a full-time student.

Don't forget to visit the website

### Now Available T-shirts in GREY.

(also in white or blue) Great for summer and the reunions. Prices are: Small, Medium, Large and X-large are \$10.00 each and XXL & XXXL are \$13.00 each. (Note: not all sizes may be available in all colors.)



**Marilyn Forsberg '59**, was honored by the Spring Lake Park Schools District 16 Minnesota, on Jan. 12, 2012. She has served on the school board for 30 years. She is a retired medical technologist and has lived in Spring Lake Park for 43 years.



**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.

**Sheila (King) Westegard '73**, writes that she is currently working but looking forward to retiring and concentrating on being a master gardener and writing.

The Westmar Park committee has been busy the last couple of weeks with clean-up and planting. Hostas and some knock-out rose bushes were donated and planted by the Gazebo. This week several members of the Board of Directors donated money so that plants could be obtained to enhance the park. Our thanks to Jan (Ex. Dir.) for planting the hostas and roses and Jan Wagner (Board member) for chairing this important committee.



*Demolition for Kime but Centennial Hall may have new life!*  
Check the LeMars Daily Sentinel for latest information on the Westmar Buildings.

Westmar Items make great gifts! Check the website for more gift ideas. [www.westmarcollege.org](http://www.westmarcollege.org) More music CD 's have been added as well.



**Westmar t-shirts come in white or blue.**

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



**Alumni Office Staff**

Janice (Dunbar) Kooiker '67: Executive Director  
 JoAnn (Skinner) Schleis '64 + staff:  
 Communications Director and Newsletter Editor  
 Mary Holub: Accounting

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Still receiving your newsletter by mail? Get it on line and get it in color—make the print as large as you like. Get it where ever you get your e-mail. Better and more convenient. Make sure we have your e-mail address today.

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Be sure to check out our ever-changing website at: <http://www.WestmarCollege.org/>. We offer online shopping, membership, and reunion registration. Suggestions 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 and encourage them to be a WAFA member.

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

We are interested in knowing what has recently (or not so recently) 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 ) \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: WAFA  
 335 First Ave. S.W.  
 Le Mars, Iowa 51031

e-mail to: [WAFA@WestmarCollege.org](mailto:WAFA@WestmarCollege.org)

**Or complete form online at:**  
[www.westmarcollege.org/membership.html](http://www.westmarcollege.org/membership.html)



**Westmar University Alumni & Friends Assoc.**

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Can we e-mail your newsletter?  Yes  No

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

**Membership fee:**      **Single \$20.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Couples \$35.00** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

General donation to help sustain your Alumni Association \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

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