



# Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 4

November 2012

## Class of '62 Celebrates 50th Anniversary



Below: Front row—Avalyn Dillingham Reissig, Carolyn Moore Zeisset, Peggy Moritz Pfeil, Marge Wright Thompson. Back row—Stan Wilkens, Tony Pitkin, Darold Wolff, Lee Wiersma and DarEll Weist.



Above: Front row - Joan Clark Franklin, Ardyth Oehlerking Banzhaf, Jolane Bakley, Marcella Knapp Miller, Beth Liebing Johnson. Back row—Donn Gunter, Royal Mattingly Gunter, Ron Osborne, Mansfield "Kasey" Kaseman, and Dennis C. Johnson. ( More reunion photos on page 5)

### Dr. Wayne Marty Celebrates 80th Birthday with reception at Plymouth County Museum



Dr. Marty is introduced by his daughter.

An e-mail was sent to Westmar Alumni and Friends announcing the birthday reception for Dr. Marty. A Westmar Alumni then issued a challenge to fellow alumni and friends. They would match donations made to WAFA in Dr. Marty's honor up to a certain amount. This information was also sent out in an email because of the short time frame. At Dr. Marty's reception, a list of donors was presented to him with a total of over \$5,000. Donations in his honor may still be made to the WAFA office and the information will be sent to him. There will be something designated in his honor but that has yet to be decided. See page 7 for more...



Presentation was made by Jan Kooiker, Rosemary Radloff (Dr. Marty) and JoAnn Schleis, above.



# Bricks and Mortar and More

## Bricks and Mortar and More—

### SAC (South Academic Center)

By Wayne G. Marty

SAC, for most of the Midwest, is a familiar acronym for the Strategic Air Command near Omaha, NE, but during the latter years on the active Westmar campus it was the reference phrase for the South Academic Center. Teaching and housing space was a major concern when the decision was made in March 1990 to proceed with the cooperative Westmar-Teikyo education effort. 400 or more Japanese students were expected to swell the enrollment. The 1920 Dubs Memorial classroom building was considered for major renovation but various factors finally led to the choice of a new building and funding was available from the input of cash associated with the Teikyo connection.

The one story SAC building was constructed rapidly on some of the potential baseball space south of 12<sup>th</sup> street, using prefabricated exterior concrete walls and mostly modular interior walls with the expectation that in future years it could be modified and used as a major facility for the Maintenance department. Japanese students began arriving in April 1990. After a few weeks of orientation to Le Mars as their new location, regular semester classes had ended and various rooms on campus became available for a summer of intensive ESL (English as a Second Language) training. By September of 1990, when the regular students and more Japanese students arrived, the SAC building was ready for use.

The floor space of SAC was greater than the area of a football field with classrooms and faculty offices on both



sides of an H shaped hallway. The ESL department was on the North side of the H and the English and Social Science departments were on the South side and Cross Bar of the H shaped corridor. Many students took advantage of the help offered by the Writing Lab located in the Cross Bar corridor. Donna Galati, W'89, joined the English faculty in 1991 and considered it an honor to now become a colleague of those faculty members who she had so appreciated and respected while she was a Westmar student just two years previously. Office and classroom space was also found to start a

new Court Reporting training program but the number of students enrolled never became very significant. As the use of the Dubs building decreased during the tough financial times and shrinking enrollment of the 80's, many of the Social Science Offices moved into the lower east wing of the Bonebrake residence hall. With the move of some faculty to SAC the Bonebrake wing became available again for the needed student housing.

Some of the SAC faculty members felt isolated because the building was physically separated from the rest of the campus by the heavily traveled 12<sup>th</sup> St., and they welcomed the lunch hour each day when they could join the group of main campus faculty that ate together in the Commons. However many SAC faculty also felt a unique sense of camaraderie within this new space because of the closeness of the various offices. Coffee was always available and Dr. Yergler usually made popcorn each morning and shared it with others all day. After school or when there was no elementary school, Dr. Yergler would often have his young son in the SAC building with him. The basketball hoop on his office door provided active entertainment for the father-son team but also for others who joined in the fun time. The closeness of the SAC faculty was very apparent in September of 1996 when Dr. Steve Rhinehart died following emergency hospitalization. Close friend, Dr. Yergler, was responsible for the clearing of Dr. Rhinehart's office.

The SAC teaching location also had unique challenges. The new ground level, hastily constructed building, was often cold in the mornings. The ground level construction probably contributed to the entry of many crickets and also to the considerable deposits of snow and mud on the hallway carpets particularly in the first years before the parking lot was paved. Smoking was commonplace among the large number of Japanese students who brought much of their culture with them. A smoking area was constructed just outside the back door but second hand smoke still entered the building. ESL teacher, Ann Withrow recalls that the ESL classes were large and the students from Japan came with less English preparation than the Westmar faculty had anticipated, so the entry level classes were very challenging.

The last Westmar University classes were held in SAC in November 1997 when the university closed. However, following the closure, long-time rival, Buena Vista University from Storm Lake, IA, rented space in

**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**

SAC from the City of Le Mars who now owned all of the Westmar campus and property, and under the leadership of Kaylyn (Busch) Pick W'88, established an extension location in Le Mars with the office and classrooms in SAC. BV purchased Westmar desks and other furnishings from the City of Le Mars. SAC thus became the only Westmar building that continued uninterrupted as an educational building. In 2002 the City sold the building to the Rejoice Community Church that had been renting the Library for their worship location for several years. The church did not need all of the



large building, so continued to rent space to BV until July of 2008 when BV found a more suitable location.

Now the Rejoice Community Church has expanded with outreach functions so that they use the entire space – Worship, Food Pantry, A monthly Shepherd's table to feed the needy, counseling services for finances and addictions, youth programs, etc. So, although the latter years at Westmar were shaky in many ways, the SAC building was a major teaching location and it is comforting to realize that some of the remaining Westmar Campus continues to carry on the service emphasis that was a central theme of the Westmar mission for over a century.



By Wayne Marty

**Alumni News**

**'68—Ann Krone**, art instructor at Friends University in Wichita, KS, has been named Outstanding Higher Education Art Educator of the Year 2012-2013. The Kansas Art Education Association (KAEA) will officially present the award at its fall conference on October 27 in Wichita, KA.

Mrs. Krone's career has had a broad-reaching impact on art education across the state of Kansas. Having taught at Fort Hays State University, Cloud County Community College, and Friends University, as well as serving as the art curriculum coordinator for the Wichita Public Schools, Mrs. Krone has inspired and provided guidance to countless art educators. Art teachers look forward to Mrs. Krone's classes and workshops as a source of ideas and refreshing inspiration.

**'55—Arthur E. Angove**, D.O., General Surgeon, Ret. On September 14, 2012 the Albia Community High School will honor me at the Homecoming assembly and parade and induct me into the Wall of Fame. Then on the same day I'll be running in the Des Moines University 5K Walk/Run. Thought you'd be interested in that since it's Iowa events. I'm still on the DMU board of trustees. God is continually blessing me. Thanks for continuing the Westmar memories. Art.

**'80—Koy Goodchild** enters his 6th season of coaching tight ends with Iowa Central College Tritons, his 33rd year of coaching overall. Koy's previous years of coaching were as head coach with the West Bend Mallard Wolverines where he won state championships in '94, '98, '99, and '04 with four state runner up teams, 2 semi-final teams, 17 playoff teams, and 15 conference/district teams. His record as a head coach was 229-38 (85.7%). Koy served as head coach in the 2005 shrine bowl and was inducted into the Coaches Hall of Fame in 1995. Coach Goodchild was named Class A Coach of the Year in '94, '99, and '05 and was recognized as 2005 Des Moines Register Coach of the Year. Koy and his wife Lori live in West Bend and have four children and six grandchildren.



**'71—Pamela S. (Kahl) Mobley** writes from Rogers, AR that she retired in June 2012 from 39 years of teaching elementary school. Congrats Pamela.

**'57—Clif and Marge Ellerbeck** from Ft. Dodge, are fully retired and live in their own home. They enjoy their home, lawn and garden. Marge is active in the UMW of Fort Dodge Trinity UMC as well as PEO. They both sing in the church choir. Clif does a bit of visitation in their congregation and enjoys his garage shop and wood working. Both are fortunate to have reasonable health and enjoy their 5th wheel RV camper for local camping in the summer and South Texas 2—3 months of the winter. They keep up with their 5 children and 8 grandchildren (2 grandsons have passed on.) "God has blessed us abundantly,"

A new WAFA Facebook Page from the WAFA office with news and announcements to keep you in touch, and up to date is now available Please LIKE us!

**Westmar Alumni and Friends Association  
Board of Directors**

Rosemary Radloff '93 & staff (Pres.)	Next Board meeting :
Cory Isebrand '88	<i>January 21, 2013 with new board members attending.</i>
Jan Wagner '76	at 7 p.m. in the Plymouth County Historical Museum's Welcome Room. All members are encouraged to participate in whatever way they can.
Phyllis Mitchell '90	
Dennis Smith '71	
Linda Smith '71	
Bonnie Lassen '71	
Stuart Fischer '84	



## Alumni Deaths

'36—Western Union, **Huberta Williams**, 95, of Fort Dodge, IA, died Jan. 7, 2012. She participated in National Science Foundation Institutes and taught public schools including 34 years in the Jr. highs of Fort Dodge. [www.gundersonfuneralhome.com](http://www.gundersonfuneralhome.com)

'40—York, **Faith (Riggs) Johnson**, 89, of Westminster, CO died June 27, 2012. She is survived by her husband Francis "Bill" Johnson who was the architect for many of the buildings on the Westmar Campus constructed in the '60's. She was active in the Evanston United Methodist Church. [www.newcomerdenver.com](http://www.newcomerdenver.com)

'42—York, **Arline Beatrice (Beason) Peckham**, 91, of Lebanon, OH, died Aug. 29, 2012. Originally from Montana, after graduation she worked for the Douglas Aircraft Co. in CA. Married to Rev. Charles W. Peckham she served as Social Director and Volunteer Coordinator at Otterbein for 18 yrs. Her sister L. Evelyn Beason was a York grad of '42. [www.legacy.com](http://www.legacy.com)

'45 - Western Union and Westmar Staff '59 to '90, **Dr. Charles Semke**, died Oct. 19, 2012 at age 87 in Plymouth, MN. He was a Psychology Professor. His wife, Dr. Harriet Semke, Modern Language Professor from '60 to '90, and also a member of the Western Union Class of '46, survives him as well as children Kathleen and Mark. [www.lemarsdailysentinel.org](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.org)

'49—York, **Dr. Milton R. Snow**, 85, of Medford, OR, died Feb. 24, 2012. After serving in the Navy during WWII he attended York and earned a degree in Biology. He participated in football and track and continued his education to become a physician. He is survived by his wife, Wanda (Miller)'49 and five children. [www.mailtribune.com](http://www.mailtribune.com)

'60—**Thomas D. Deedrick**, 78, died on March 30, 2012 at Rochester, MN. He served in the Army during the Korean War. He was a founder and board member of Faith Sound, KFSI radio and Faith Christian School where he coached boys' basketball. Survived by his wife Lorraine (Hermann) '60. His brother David '53 and parents Levi and Jeanette were graduates of Western Union '26 and Jeanette was a house mother '56-'64 and '66-67. [www.ranfranzandvinefh.com](http://www.ranfranzandvinefh.com)

'60—**Florence L. (Iszler) Asplund**, 85, of Omaha, NE, originally from Bismarck, ND died Aug. 28, 2012. Survived by two daughters and their families. [www.heafeyheafey.com](http://www.heafeyheafey.com)

### FAMILY DEATHS:

'55—wife of **Rev. Robert Link**, Virginia (Cresap), 78, of Loveland, CO, died Oct 3, 2012. She was very active in the churches they served and was a missionary. [ww.lovelandreporterherald.com](http://ww.lovelandreporterherald.com)

'70—daughter, of **Rev. Allan Vrieze and his wife Jean (Siegle) '69**, Lorajean E. Vrieze Spencer, 33 of Rochester, MN, died Aug 6, 2012. Lorajean was active in theater, youth activities and leaves two daughters. [www.postbulletin.com](http://www.postbulletin.com)

## Remember Westmar in Your Will

Choosing to make your college a beneficiary of your estate, even though Westmar has closed, is still possible through the Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association.

If you haven't thought about a gift to Westmar, please do so. Just as a guideline, it should be worded "I leave \$xxxx to Westmar University 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 University Alumni and Friends Association is a 501(c)(3) and as such we are considered a charitable organization. Thank you for your consideration.

## ALUMNI NEWS cont. from page 3

'84—**Judy (Williams) Wiegmann** of Springdale, AR writes that she and husband **Brad (Wiegmann) '83**, have 2 daughters, one is a Jr. at U or AR, Fayetteville and the other graduated from U of AR in May of 2012 and is getting married Nov. 10, 2012. Brad is a freelance outdoor writer. His website is [www.bradwiegmann.com](http://www.bradwiegmann.com)

'64—**Maurice Schroeder** of Danube, MN and his wife Harriet celebrated 50 years of marriage in August of 2012. We hope they enjoy many more!

'96—**Erv Whitehead's** son Michael Whitehead had one of the best receiving nights in state football history, catching six touchdown passes as Gehlen Catholic picked up its second straight win. The son of former Teikyo Westmar University wide receiver standout (a former Sioux City Bandits wide receiver) had 11 catches for 213 yards and scoring catches of 25, 45, 21, 14, 24 and 30 yds. His 6 touchdown catches trails seven by Joe Audlehelm for Central Decatur in 2006. Michaels mother is **Lisa (Holtgrewe) '90**. Used with permission: [www.siouxcityjournal.com](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com)



'56—**Carroll Marty** of Ames was named one of two 2012 National Congress of State Games Athletes of the Year. He received his award at the Annual State Games symposium in Blaine, MN. Two adults and one youth are chosen annually from among more than 400,00 athletes participating in state games events in 35 member states. Carroll has participated or volunteer since its inception in 1987. At the age of 77, he has earned 25 gold, silver and bronze medals. His brother Wayne Marty writes our Bricks and Mortar column. [www.iowagames.org](http://www.iowagames.org)

'58—**Shirley Longnecker**... enjoyed visiting Westmar Campus this summer and saw all the changes but the essence of our college filled me with thankfulness. We had many happy memories there—the building now for health-care was brand new in '58. Gil ('58 now deceased) was the manager of the "student" hangout and food. I live in the Seattle area with my daughter and family and still about my Father's business—In His love, Shirley



# Alumni News...continued



Classes of '63—'64 below: Front row—Ginni Cook, Linda Maier Sievers, Shirley Roder Goutcher, and Betty Rosenow Wilkens. Back row—LaVerne Koelling, Bob LeCount, Bob Neben, and Bob Franklin.



Classes of '60-'61: Front row—Marchia Savage Koelling, Ramona Kolbo Oehlerking, Beverly Kreuger Pitkin, Marian Maier LeCount. Back row—Bob Pfeil, Willie Trusheim, Sara Jane Hauff, Ray Zeisset, and Arne Thompson.

## *More photos from the reunion of '62 with the classes of '60—'64*



North Dakota Bunch: Front row—June Asplund Marty, Beth Liebing Johnson, Shirley Roder Goutcher, Beverly Kreuger Pitkin. Back row—A. John Martin, Darold Wolff, Donn Gunter, Mansfield "Kasey" Kaseman, DarEll Weist.



Faculty and Staff: Front row—Ardella Miller Hodgson, June Asplund Marty, Janice Dunbar Kooiker. Back row—Dr. Robert Embree, Dr. Robert Franklin, Dr. Wayne Marty, Dr. Theodore Rebstock.



DeBoer House Gang: Left to right—Willie Trusheim, Arne Thompson, Donn Gunter, Ray Zeisset, DarEll Weist.



### *Save the Date*

50th Reunion for the Class of '63  
September 13-14, 2013

Included are classes of '61, '62, '64 and '65.  
Invitations will be sent in January 2013.

**Needed:** 3 or 4 people to serve on the committee.

*Questions—e-mail*

wafa@westmarcollege.org

# ABOUT

**Editors Note:** This is a new section we hope will be informative as we strive to better inform you about the activities and goals of your Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association. We want it to be your association as we appreciate the past and look to the future.

ABOUT your Wafa office:

Since the closing of Westmar in 1997 an office has been in the Plymouth County Museum. We joke about it being in a closet! Actually it is larger than many cubicles that people work in, however it only works for one person at a time since we all use the same computer.

We do have 3 employees that share this office. Employees are paid at \$8.00 per hour. Jan and JoAnn are limited to 7 paid hours a week and Mary 4 hours per week. Additional hours worked are as volunteers.

**Jan (Dunbar) Kooiker**, '67, is the Executive director and her regular hours are Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons, however, she comes in many morning as well.

Jan married Clayton Kooiker, '69, during her senior year at Westmar, graduating with a degree in Home Economics and a minor in Art. She began teaching Jr. Hi. Home Economics and Life Science in Cherokee, IA. Returning to LeMars in '72, and after 7 yrs. As a stay-at-home Mom with daughter, Stacy, and son Daniel, she returned to the workforce. She was a Book store co-owner and then as a Nutrition Coordinator with the Head Start Program. After nearly 20 yrs she again chose to stay at home and play with her two granddaughters who are now 15 and 18 and mostly grown up! She has served as Executive Director of Wafa since 2004 and finds new challenges, opportunities, and connections each day she comes to work. In her spare time, she enjoys oil painting and block print-making, growing and cooking with herbs and vegetables, reading, writing, genealogy, bike riding, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.



**JoAnn (Skinner) Schleis**, Attn'd '61, is the Communications Director and Editor of the Newsletter. Her regular hours are Thursday and Friday afternoons. She is able to work addition hours from home.



JoAnn came to LeMars from Berthoud, CO, when her father R.N. Skinner took the position of Buildings and Grounds Engineer in '59. Graduating from LeMars Community Schools in '60, she attended Westmar the following year. After her marriage to Ed Schleis in '61 she did return to Westmar in '63 to become secretary in the Admitting Office. She moved to the business office as secretary and left in '67 due to pregnancy issues. Her employment background includes insurance, health care, retail business owner and small business con-

sultant, as well as a designer and teacher in the art and craft industry. They have three children, 9 grandchildren, and 4 gr. grandchildren. Other than family, her interests include travel, family history and documentation, home and garden, and photography.

"When I had the opportunity to join the Wafa office team I felt like I had come full circle. I like my job!"

**Mary Holub** is the Financial Director and works morning hours. She began her duties in May 2012 but is no stranger to the Wafa office. She began doing the newsletter in Feb. 2005 and things evolved from there. In August 2010, she had to quit her duties at Wafa when she took a position as Plymouth County Museum registrar and exhibit manager. She still works for the Museum, but squeezes her Wafa duties in on her lunch hours. Since both offices are in the same building, it makes it very convenient. Mary has four daughters and two grandchildren.



*Coming next month!! Meet Your Westmar Alumni and Friends Board of Directors....*

The City has approved the decorating of the Westmar Gazebo for the Christmas holidays. However, it is not in our budget— so we would like your help. Donations should be sent to Wafa, 335 1st Ave SW, Le Mars, IA 51031 and email [Wafa@westmarcollege.org](mailto:Wafa@westmarcollege.org) to let them know. There are a couple of volunteers to help but others are welcome. If there should be more donations than needed they will be put in a fund for the gazebo repair. Thank you!



## Wafa Dues / And Donations Support These Activities:

- Maintain office and staff to....
- Work with the Iowa College Foundation to administer the Westmar Endowment Scholarship
- Help sponsor and organize Westmar reunions
- Publish Wafa newsletters
- Help maintain, improve and expand 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

ALUMNI NEWS... continued



'89—**JoEllen (Scholten) Travis**, head softball coach of the Treynor, IA, Cardinals was honored by the Omaha World Herald as their western Iowa coach of the year for 2012. The cardinals were Class 2-A softball champions this year. Shown with JoEllen are her husband Mike and their children Clare and Gabe. More can be found online.

'73—**Larry and Rosemary (Jeys) '93 Radloff**—were honored by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship and the Iowa Farm Bureau at the 2012 Iowa State Fair in Des Moines for their Century Farm. "Cedar Hill" has been part of Larry's family. The Radloffs moved to the original farmstead in 1972. "Living here has been like living in a park". Rosemary has served as president of Wafa for the past two years. Their children are: Christopher '93, Cory '96 and Carrie '96. [www.lemarsdailysentinel.com](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.com) for more on this story.



'42—**Jim and Kay (Becker '42) Bogenrief** of Merrill, IA, celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary. They were married Sept 19, 1942 at the Hildreth Evangelical Chapel, Westmar College in LeMars. Jim is retired from the US Army and as an ASCS Clerk. He has been involved as a trustee at church and many musical positions including 62 years with the LeMars Municipal Band. Kay is a retired music teacher at Merrill, active for 60 years as church organist at Melbourne. The couple reside on a 130 year old family farm. [www.lemarssentinel.com](http://www.lemarssentinel.com)



**The Westmar Library** has been sold by the city to John and Sharon Sailer who have plans to refurbish the building for a family restaurant. More information can be found at [www.lemarsdailysentinel.com](http://www.lemarsdailysentinel.com)



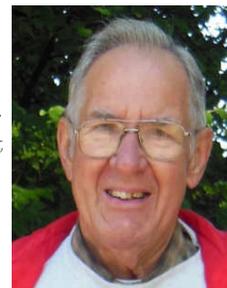
**Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to all of you from the Wafa Staff: Jan, JoAnn and Mary**

Fundraising is ongoing with any non-profit organization and Wafa is no exception. Dues are not enough to sustain and grow our association and many of you have been generous to help keep the office open. We truly appreciate your support and will be listing all contributors for 2012, in the February edition of the newsletter. Donors will be listed to the General Fund, In Memory Of, In Honor Of, Marty Tribute, or Gazebo/Park or Westmar Memorial Room Fund. Thank you for your support!

CONTRIBUTIONS TO Wafa (from page 1)

IN HONOR OF DR. WAYNE MARTY

Dr. Wayne Marty has been a special part of the Westmar Family as a Biology professor, a mentor to countless students, a coach of soccer and track, and as an alumnus—he is a fine example of what Westmar means!



As his 80th birthday celebration approached, a challenge was made by an alumnus who would match 50 cents of every dollar contributed to Wafa in Dr. Marty's honor, up to the amount of \$500.

Please help us to continue to add to this fund!!

Dr. Marty has been instrumental in making sure Westmar is remembered through the Westmar Memorial Room at the Plymouth County Museum. He has been a supporter of Wafa since its inception, serving on the Board and various committees. He is the author of the Bricks-N-Mortar articles that appear in the Wafa newsletter and on the Wafa website,

And he gives wonderful and informative campus tours at Westmar reunions.

Please join us in honoring him with your contribution! Your name will be added to the list on his card.

I am convinced that the Wafa staff is doing a superb job of keeping the Westmar family together and because we continue to reside in Le Mars I can be part of the excitement of every reunion in Le Mars and occasionally even those held elsewhere. The Wafa invitation to contribute to a Marty tribute was a total surprise and the response to the \$500 anonymous matching challenge was overwhelming. The list of donors that was presented at the party was about as long as the Sprint Triathlon that I completed with some of my kids and grandkids that same morning. The many contributions and notes provided wonderful mental reconstructions with some of you that I have not thought about for years. What a rich learning opportunity was available to me at Westmar and it was a gift to me to be able to work with so many super students and faculty for so many years. Thank You! Thank You! The total of \$5631 will provide a wonderful special fund for Wafa to use to enhance the Westmar Memorial Park, Westmar Room and/or update the Alumni database software. The deposits in my memory bank have just been greatly increased and I can draw from them often without depleting the principle. Thank You all so very much!

"Doc" Marty

