



Westmar Alumni and Friends Association

Volume 9, Issue 2

May, 2007

Endowment Scholarships Awarded

The Iowa College Foundation announced that it has awarded Westmar Endowment Scholarships totaling \$41,500 to 36 Northwest Iowa students who will be attending an Iowa private college or university in academic year 2007-2008. The Westmar Endowment Scholarship Program is administered by ICF in cooperation with the Westmar Alumni and Friends Association.

Westmar Presidential Scholarships of \$5,000 each were awarded to Samantha Lewis of Remsen who will be a freshman at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake; and, to Lara Roy of Le Mars who will be a freshman at Simpson College. In addition 29 students received \$1,000 awards each and 5 students received \$500 each.

Those receiving \$1,000 awards were; Craig Ahlers, Remsen; Heidi Anthony, Le Mars; Brice Buryanek, Hawarden; Kendra Collins, Le Mars; Danae Dalton, Le Mars; La'Cee Groetken, Le Mars; Kari Hansen, Sioux City; Delainye Hardersen, Hinton; Kadrian Hardersen, Hinton; Craig Hector, Le Mars; Logan Hines, Hinton; Kevin Kessenich, Le Mars; Kelli Langel, Le

Mars; Brittany Lassen, Remsen.

Elizabeth Less, Akron; Seth Lloyd, Merville; Ty Philips, Le Mars; Erin Puhl, Le Mars; Jessica Ream, Westfield; Andrew Reinking, Hawarden; Neil Rohe, Le Mars; Michael Roy, Le Mars; Juliana Sadler, Correctionville; Rachel Schultz, Merrill; Andrew Stevenson, Merrill; Jennifer Stevenson, Merrill; Jessica Vander Velde, Rock Valley; Emili Vondrak, Kingsley; and Hope Weiler, Le Mars.

Receiving \$500 scholarships were Michelle Heeren, Le Mars; Joleen Owens, Aurelia; Brandon Robinson, Hinton; Ashley Ruehle, Sioux City; and Kaitlin Tritz, Le Mars.

The Westmar Endowment Scholarship Program is one of the largest scholarship programs ever offered in Northwest Iowa. First consideration for awards was given to students who are current residents of Northwest Iowa and have a Westmar connection such as alumni, former staff and former faculty of Westmar as well as their children and grandchildren. Other considerations were given to students who are residents of Le Mars and students living

outside of the northwest Iowa area but have connections with the former Westmar College. The Westmar Scholarships are also awarded on the basis of a student's academic merit, commitment to community service, and leadership qualities. The 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 24 member colleges as a full-time student.

The Iowa College Foundation was founded in 1952, to annually solicit unified support for private higher education in Iowa. ICF assists Iowa's private colleges and universities in providing a quality educational experience for 44,000 students.

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 Alumni and Friends Association, ICF has received over \$700,000 from the Westmar Endowment to establish an endowment for scholarships.

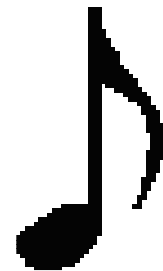
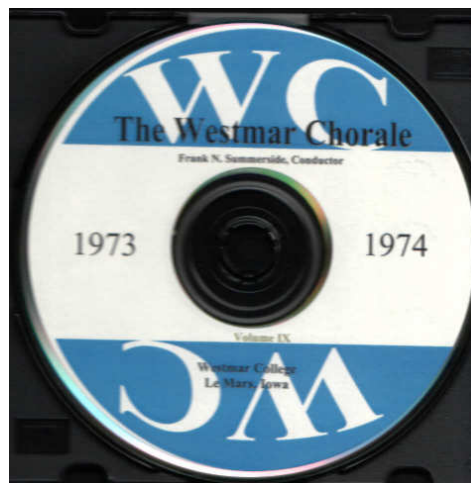
Chorale CDs Now for Sale

Chorale Conductor, Frank Summerside has had all of the Chorale music put onto CDs.

The years range from 1964-65 to 1982-83 and are only \$10 each. There is also a CD containing a compilation of various Christmases at Westmar.

We will ship them to you for an additional \$3 or you can pick them up at any one of the reunions in Le Mars this summer.

Just return the order form you may have received in the mail with your reunion invitation, or visit our website www.WestmarCollege.org to print an order form. They will be made available on the website shortly.



Inside this issue:

Alumni News & Deaths	2
Upcoming Dates	2
Tee Shirts for Sale	2
Bricks & Mortar & More	3
Summer Reunions	4
Wireless at Western Union	4



Alumni News

News

1942-Lorraine (Bartel) Davis is retired from teaching at Maple Valley School in Mapleton, Iowa. She spends part of the year in Mercedes, Texas.

1954-Paul and Marcia (Bartel) Wiener of Loveland, Colorado will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 24, 2007.

1962-Lee Wiersma is living in Paola, Kansas and is enjoying retirement by being the custodian at the United Methodist Church, supplying the pulpit when necessary and serving as delivery person for Asher Pharmacy.

1970-Rob Taylor is semi-retired and has taken a position as business manager at the Evangelical Free Church of Willman, Minn.

1980-Carol (Nichols) Childress has been teaching Art at West Lyon at Inwood,

Iowa for the past 20 years.

1992-Michelle Weiler married district court judge David Cunis in Holliston, Mass., on Oct. 8, 2006. They are expecting their first baby in September. Michelle teaches fifth grade at Ashland Public School in Ashland, Massachusetts.

1995-1997-Joey Brown transferred to Southwest State University in Marshall, Minn., after Westmar closed. He graduated in 2000 with a degree in Business and moved to Texas where he joined the Army. As an officer, he was deployed to Iraq twice. During his first deployment he met his wife, Mindy. They are both in the process of transitioning out of the military. He has accepted a job in Jacksonville, Florida. The couple is expecting their first baby in November.

Deaths

1938-Sylvia (Bogh) Schneider of Le Mars passed away on March 18, 2007 in Le Mars

1938-Wayne Warnock of Merrill, Iowa died on April 11, 2007.

1948-Donald Witt of Bartlesville, Okla. passed away on January 22, 2007.

1949-Carolyn (Searles) Wenzel died on May 9, 2007 at the Indian Hills Nursing and Rehab Center in Sioux City.

1951-Lawrence Thornton of Sultan, Wash., died on Feb. 11, 2007.

1962-Judy (Peck) Boersma died on March 21, 2007 from injuries sustained in a car accident.

1962-Cyril "Cy" Ortmann of Le Mars died on April 9, 2007.

1968-Bernice (Van Wyhe) Janssen of Hawarden, Iowa passed away on February 25, 2007

Upcoming Westmar Alumni Dates

- **July 14:** Reunion for the Decade of the 1990, Fine Arts, and Wrestlers. See <http://www.westmarcollege.org/Reunions.html> for details.
- **July 17:** Wafa board meeting at 7 p.m. in the Welcome Room of the Plymouth County Historical Museum. All members are welcome to attend.
- **July 27-29:** 50-year reunion of the Class of 1957. All graduates from 1955 to 1959 are invited.
- **Aug. 10-12:** Reunion of all athletes from 1955 to 1960.
- **October 16:** Wafa board meeting at 7 p.m. in the Welcome Room of the Plymouth County Historical Museum. All members are welcome to attend.

Name _____

Address _____

City, St., Zip _____

White:
 ____ small ____ med. ____ large ____ x-large (\$10 each)
 ____ xx-large (\$12 each)

Blue:
 ____ small ____ med. ____ large ____ x-large (\$15 each)
 ____ xx-large (\$18 each)

Shipping is \$5 per shirt. Total enclosed \$ _____

Get your tee shirts now so you have them for the reunions this summer. They come in white or blue. The white ones are currently on sale for 30% off. Visit our website at www.WestmarCollege.org or e-mail or send your order to us. Addresses are on the back of this newsletter.



Westmar tee shirts come in white or blue.

Do you have any published work that we could display in the Westmar Memory Room?

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



Bricks and Mortar and More

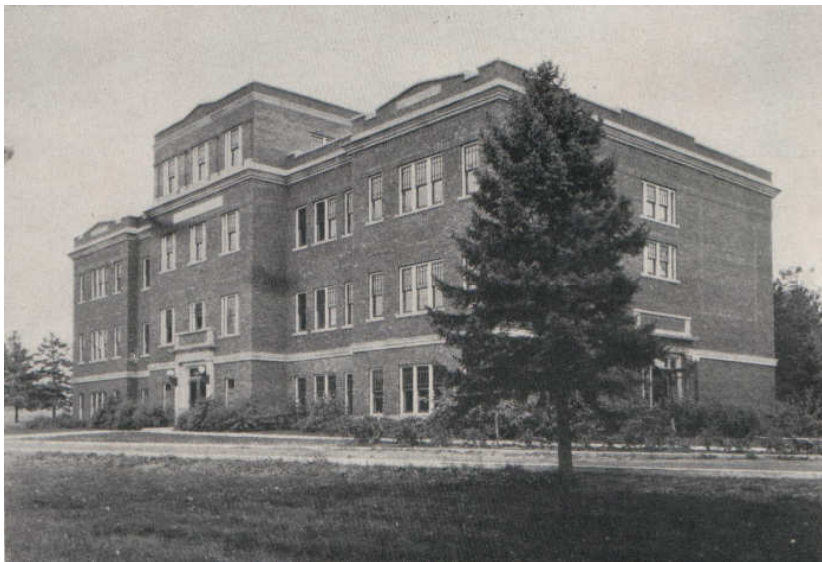
Dubs Memorial Building

by Dr. Wayne Marty

In 1920 the foundation was laid for the Bishop Dubs Memorial classroom building. Bishop Rudolph Dubs was the primary negotiator at the meeting in the Union Hotel in Le Mars “which led to the organization and incorporation of the ‘Western Union College of the United Evangelical Church.’” (1914 Western Union Pilot, page 38) On March 29, 2002 two excavators attacked the east end of the building to begin the demolition. Imagine the many professor–student exchanges, the eye opening educational events, the spiritual growth, and the love life beginnings that occurred within and around that building during the intervening 82 years.

The basement hallway was lined with composite pictures of previous graduating classes. Alice Kruse and other English professors, in their classrooms on the south side, improved the writing of many new freshmen struggling to put words into meaningful order. Reuben Job was one such freshman admitted to Westmar College without completing high school. He failed the first writing assignments but with the encouragement and guidance of Miss Kruse went on to graduate, complete seminary, serve as pastor in local churches, become Editor of the Upper Room and to be elected as Bishop of the United Methodist Church. The last educational use of the Dubs basement was for a Black Box Theater by the drama department in the 90’s. The only restrooms for the four story building were on the north side of the basement hallway - hardly acceptable architecture in this 21st century.

The second floor originally provided space for the administration offices. I remember paying my first college tuition (\$150/semester) to Mr. Olson who stood behind the iron cage in the Treasurer’s office. The office contained a vault with the big iron door. I knew little of this vault until some of



Dubs Memorial

(taken from the 1924 Pilot yearbook)

us roamed through the building just prior to the demolition in 2002 and as remnants in the vault I found the 1947 chemistry grades for my older sister. The administration offices were moved to the new Library building in 1950 and the offices were then occupied by professors of the psychology and religion and education departments. Typing and Shorthand instruction was offered in the southwest rooms until the computer surge made that instruction obsolete. In another south room Prof. Dipert in his chalk smudged blue suit would extend his equations on the blackboard while exclaiming “It’s obvious” to we confused math majors. Next door Dr. Kempers may have been reading Ellis Butler’s 1905 “Pigs is Pigs” to a history class. In another room Prof. Dunn was using the new 1948 Senior Class gift of a “Wire Recorder” so that student speeches could be replayed for their speech improvement.

In the early years the east end of the third floor was the location of the library with reading and study space. The large south Upper Room was used for many years as the location for a pre-class devotional time but in later years was converted into another classroom. The big north Room 300 was used for large classes and was the

meeting place for the monthly Faculty Senate in the early 60’s. Many years previously an “overcharged” chemistry demonstration set up by Dr. Hershberger had blown a cork stopper into the soft ceiling material. The cork was in that ceiling “watching over” the Faculty Senate meetings, Mr. Price’s Government classes and later the Audio-Visual Media classes, until the demolition day in 2002. After construction of the new library in 1950 the large vacated space was used for chorale rehearsals and eventually remodeled for the Education department with faculty offices constructed around the perimeter.

By 1926 the fourth floor (Penthouse) was home for the Radio Station KWUC which was said to have an outstanding acoustical studio for “the best 50-watt station on the air.” By the 1940’s KWUC was off the air and the space housed the Western Union museum with geology and biology artifacts. The collection also included various artifacts from Westmar Alumni missionaries who served throughout the world. Later the space became the foreign language instruction labs and a Psychology experimental facility. The

(Continued on page 4)



Artifacts from Dubs Memorial at the Plymouth County Historical Museum



Demolition of Dubs Memorial began on March 29, 2002.

(Continued from page 3)

“how” is not clear but I know that some student couples were able to gain access to the roof of Dubs through the “Penthouse” so that they could experience the rooftop moonlight.

Portions of the Dubs building live on at the Plymouth County Historical Museum. The Bulletin Board (Gift from the Class of 1920) is now set into the wall of the Westmar Room at the museum. The exterior steel double doors from Dubs are now fire break doors in the museum corridors. Various artifacts from the former WUC museum are now a part of the PCHM museum collection. But, of course, the Dubs building primarily lives on in the memories of the many who sat in the classrooms of that building with instruction from so many memorable professors.

The Heating Plant will be the topic of this column in the next newsletter.

Three Summer Reunions

With summer comes reunion time. This summer there are three reunions scheduled to take place in Le Mars.

The first one involves all graduates, faculty and staff from the Decade of the 1990s along with Fine Arts members from all decades and all wrestlers.

There will be a campus tour, picnic with Milt Martin and the wrestlers, Chorale practice and performance at Calvary Church with Frank Summerside, pictures, and a banquet.

This reunion takes place on July 14. There will be informal visiting and registration on the evening of July 13 with all planned activities being on July 14.

Registration for this reunion is due by June 15 for the best rate. After that date

the price will go up \$5 per person.

Chorale CDs will be available for sale at the reunion or through the Alumni Office.

Next, the Class of 1957 will celebrate their 50-year reunion on July 27-29.

They have invited the surrounding classes of 1955-1959 to attend as well.

Their reunion will include registration, then dinner at Archie’s Waeside on Friday evening. More visiting time on Saturday with a campus tour and banquet.

Registration for this reunion is due by July 13.

The third reunion involves the athletes from the Brockman, Robinson, Wilson, Knudtson era.

Registration is due by July 20 for the August 10-12 reunion in Le Mars.

Activities at the Plymouth County Historical Museum will include visiting, lunch, pictures, and a banquet.

The Alumni Office has made every attempt to contact everyone involved in all three reunions, but we don’t have current addresses for everyone. If you know of someone who didn’t receive an invitation, please contact the Alumni Office.

Details and registration forms can be found on the website www.WestmarCollege.org. Payment can be made by mail or through the website.

The Alumni Office staff is always here to help you setup a reunion and contact those involved.

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.

Name _____ Spouse’s Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____

Zip Code _____ Phone Number _____ e-mail address _____



Remember When: Wireless at Western Union



In this day of home computers and cable television, there probably aren't many who remember the days of the wireless at Western Union College, but we can continue to learn.

The following was taken from the 1922 *Pilot* yearbook.

The strides have been large and the pace double-quick in the development of wireless telegraphy and telephony in our college. Beginning but two years ago with a little coil of wire and a crystal detector, through the work of Professor Kime and interest of others, we have developed the most up-to-date set in this section of the country.

The picture...shows the complete outfit. On the table at the left side is the One K. W. spark sending set, with transformers and rotary gap. Beneath are batteries and a rectifier. On the floor between the two tables is the motor generator for the 15 Watt C. W. radiophone set which is just above on the large table. The second panel is the receiving set, consisting of a detector and one-step amplifier over a paragon short-wave tuner. Next is the horn of

the Magnavox or loud speaker, extending above the long-wave honeycomb coil tuner. The panel at the extreme right is another amplifier.

The two-step amplifier and Magnavox magnify the signals thousands of times, so that they may be heard all over the room. The nightly radiophone concerts attract many visits from Le Mars, and other towns as well. Hearing speeches, band and orchestra music, singing, vaudeville, and sermons from places as far distant as Chicago, Texas, Detroit, Pittsburg, and even New York, is quite a novelty.

That the spark set is efficient is shown by some of its achievements. We have worked over a hundred amateurs at a distance of at least five hundred miles, regularly. We have either worked, or have been heard by, amateurs in every state in the Union, with the exception of four or five. But the best record came out only recently in an official report in the "Radio," a wireless magazine, which stated that our station, 9 YAE, was heard by Clifford J. Dow at station 6 ZAC, Wailuku,

Maui, Hawaii, on January 5, 1922. Mr. Dow copied the station to which we were sending for over an hour and gave our entire conversation. This distance is approximately 3,600 miles and seems to be a record for spark transmission.

We have had our radiophone only a short time and it has not yet had a chance to show what records it is capable of making, but it promises to do even better than the spark set.

Our station is popular in relay work, in sending messages in all directions. Over a thousand messages have been relayed during the school year. Among these were seven distinguished ones to President Harding from the Governors of Texas, Idaho, Montana, Minnesota, Utah, Nevada, and Washington.

Much of our success we feel is due to our operators, Nicholas Brauch and DeWitt Streyffeler. The former has charge of a class in code work. He was with the army corps and served in France.

Volume 9, Issue 2

May, 2007

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)

Unspecified \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Return this form to:

WAFAs

335 First Avenue S.W.

Le Mars, Iowa 51031

*Please make check
payable to WAFAs*



To avoid cutting your newsletter, these forms can be copied or printed from website and mailed to us.