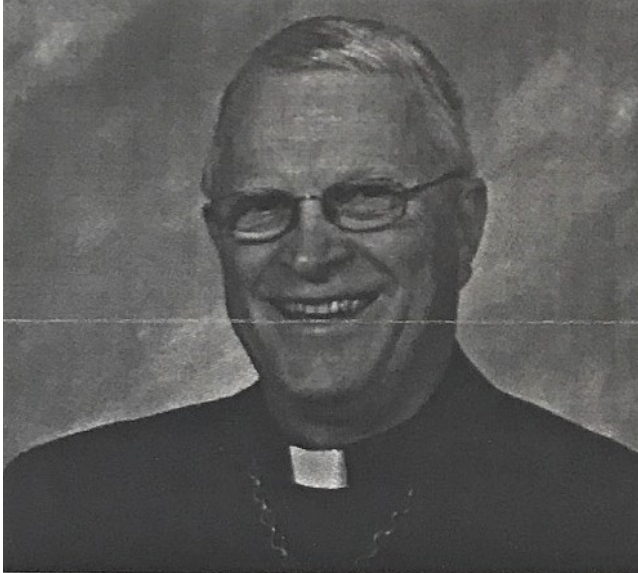




Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 22, ISSUE 1

March 2020



Rev. Edward Johnson

The Commission on Archives and History was proud to have the Annual Conference acknowledge the **Rev. Edward Johnson '61** as the second recipient of the Lois C. Olsen "Ministry of Memory" award. The Rev. Edward Johnson has been an important supporter of the Archives and its work for more than 50 years. He was a member of the initial Commission on Archives and History that was formed in the Wisconsin Conference shortly after the union that formed The United Methodist Church in 1968. He served on the Commission for years, and also was an integral part of the Wisconsin Conference Historical Society and Museum Committee.

In his early years as a member of the Commission on Archives and History, he advocated Conference wide, and directly with the current Bishop for a separate Archives to house the important records and documents of the Annual Conference. Before our Archives was established as part of the Conference Center in Sun Prairie, the records were scattered around the state, with some in a temporary location

in Oshkosh. The advocacy on behalf of an Archives to house our important records was critical to our Archives being established, and the Rev. Johnson played a key role in that effort.

The Rev. Johnson independently made efforts to preserve as much local church history as possible. From his travels around the state to photograph rural local churches that might otherwise be forgotten, from his efforts to collect and preserve something of their history, and his collection of artifacts and mementos from those local churches, he has been instrumental in building the collection of the Archives. He continued to pursue this passion with years of volunteer work in the Archives itself. Without his efforts over the course of the last 50 years, our ability to tell the story of our denomination to future generations would have been severely diminished. His effort to preserve the history of our Conference stand out and will benefit generations to come.

The Rev. Johnson was unable to attend the Annual Conference held in Green Bay in June 2019, but the Rev. Frank Gaylord received the award on his behalf.

Reprinted by permission from Rev. Jim Droste, Wisconsin Conference Archives

Please visit the website (www.WestmarCollege.org) for your membership needs.

Please keep us posted when you move or get a new email address or phone number. We no longer get updates unless YOU let us know.

Also check the **MISSING** link on the website for any friends of yours for whom we are missing current information, email addresses included. It would be greatly appreciated! **Thank you!**

During the Last 100 Years

Mission Possible: An African Adventure

Rev. John J. Arnold

This book was edited by **John William (Bill) Arnold '55**.

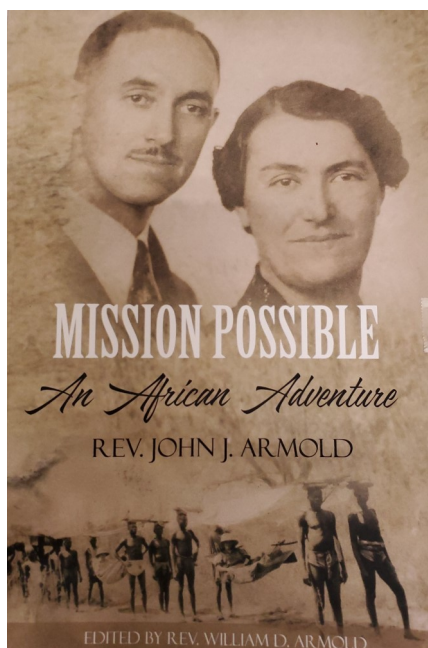
My parents are **John J. Arnold '22** and **D'Alta David Arnold '23**, both graduates from Westmar. A couple of years ago, I was going through my parents' things, having only slightly perused them many years before. I had failed to realize that my dad had actually written a book. Trying to figure out my dad's handwriting on now yellowed paper was difficult.

About a year and a half ago, I realized what the material was. After considerable editing, I had it published with the title of "Mission Possible: An African Adventure." It is the real life story of my parents' experiences of the first few years in Nigeria, Africa where they were assigned in 1926 as pastor and teacher to a tribe of former head hunters.

Yet as they began their ministry, they soon found themselves transformed into doctor and nurse. In dad's own words, you will follow their sometimes turbulent lives as they fell in love with the people of another world. Some who have read it said they could hardly put it down.

It is published by Prairie Muse Books of Lincoln, NE. At the present time, if you would like a book, please contact me either at 639 Danville Dr, Lincoln, NE 68510 or via email at wa34158@windstream.net. The book plus shipping and handling is \$15.00.

Thank you Bill for the signed copy that you donated to WAFA! It was an excellent read. We appreciate the way you chose to honor them.



Reunions

There are a couple of reunions tentatively scheduled for this year. More details will follow as we learn more about the plans. Please continue to check the **MISSING** link on the website to be sure we do not have you listed there. Also, if you see someone you know, please update us with his/her current information.

The following reunions are tentatively scheduled:

- An all classes from the **80's reunion** is tentatively scheduled to be held during Ice Cream Days. There may be a float in the parade on which individuals may ride. No further information at this time.
- A **50 year reunion** is tentatively being planned. No further information at this time.

If you are planning a reunion, please let us know and we will list it in the WAFA newsletter, our Facebook page, and on our website. We can also assist with sending an email to your classmates or providing addresses.

We also love pictures of reunions no matter how large or small. Be sure to include information and names. We will share them!

Reunion Support Guidelines

- Publish reunion information provided by Committee on Facebook, WAFA Web Site and in WAFA Newsletter.
- Provide mailing labels or mailing list for sending invitations. (USPS only or USPS plus e-mail)
- Provide use of group e-mail for invitation and updates. Committee would provide copy of message to send.
- Provide information on a personal PayPal account to accept registrations. Alternative to accepting checks only. WAFA will assist with this.
- Provide contact lists of LeMars area hotels, caterers/restaurants, and meeting rooms.
- Make room reservation at LeMars Convention Center, if needed, to get 40% non-profit discount. Pay for room, to be reimbursed by Reunion Committee. (Reunion Committee would have to set up and take down the room. Reunion Committee would make alternative room arrangements (i.e. church, restaurant).
- Make Westmar Memorabilia available for purchase in the Westmar Room and the Museum sales area.
- Publish reunion pictures in WAFA newsletter if pictures are provided with names and reunion identification.



Alumni News

Dr. Wayne Mitchell '58— Taught at Westmar until 1983. Most recently inducted into the Performing and Visual Arts Hall of Fame at Augustana University in Sioux Falls, SD. Dr. Mitchell had a very successful career as a voice teacher and choral director having 10 former students who are professional singers around the world. He states the best part of his career was, "I had fun doing it." He currently resides in Dell Rapids, SD with his wife Doris.

Dr. Steven Reuter '70— "I am deeply indebted to Hayes McGraw. Hayes was ahead of his time when it came to teacher education. When I first came to MSU Mankato in 1988... to teach early childhood, parent education, and elementary education... there was no such thing as organized field placements in elementary school. Hays had us in elementary school placements in 1968! I found that after almost 50 years in education that I was using information gained from Hayes McGraw's classes."

Dr. David Martin '67—During the course of his career, Dr. Martin has been on many committees and received numerous awards for his work on helping teachers teach economics in the public and independent schools of Georgia. Most recently, he received the William Odum Visionary Award from the Jump\$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy in 2019. He is married to **Lynn Dee Martin**. Together they have four children and seven grandchildren.

Sandra Halverson '66 is now a retired physical education teacher. Her sister **Judy Halverson Moss '67** is now a retired math teacher.

Reminder about submitting obituaries and new stories:

Thank you to all those that submit obituaries and new stories to us. **Reminder** that we need to know where the information is from and/or the photo if it has been printed or posted somewhere. There are copyright laws that we need to follow. If we print your information as you send it and it comes from the media, we need the funeral home or newspaper for obituaries. That way, we can share that with our readers who would like more information. Obituaries help us keep our data base up to date and save time in searching for people to invite to reunions etc. We also like to share the link in news stories as well. Unfortunately, we do not have room to tell the whole story.

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) _____

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

e-mail to: WAFA@westmarcollege.org

Westmar University Alumni & Friends Assoc.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

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 \$ _____

In Memory/Honor of (circle one) \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Return this form to:

WAFA
335 First Avenue S.W.
Le Mars, Iowa 51031

Or complete form online at www.westmarcollege.org/Membership.html



Alumni Deaths

'62 – **Reverend Canon Ronald D. Osborne**, 79, of Iowa City, IA passed away on January 21, 2020. After receiving his master's and doctorate degrees, Ron served as the Episcopal Chaplain at the University of Iowa for over 25 years. He had many interests including reading, watching college football, shooting off his potato gun and/or fireworks, and spending time with family and friends. He is survived by his two children, seven grandchildren, his wife **Sara Jane Hauff** '60, three siblings, as well numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. Per Ron's wishes, his earthly body has been donated to the University of Iowa Deeded Body Program. A memorial service and celebration of life will be held in Iowa at 1:00pm on May 23, 2020 at the Trinity Episcopal Church of Waterloo, IA. www.gayandciha.com

Kent A. Ewing, 62, of Forest City, IA passed away February 14, 2020 at Good Samaritan Society in Forest City. During his high school and college years, he took a strong interest in music and proudly served as drum major in marching band. Kent was an avid outdoorsman. These passions led him to one of his most treasured occupations, sales at Jacobson's Gun Center in Story City. Kent is survived by his mother, three sons, one step-daughter, five grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews along with other family and friends. <https://globegazette.com/community/kent-ewing>

Mary Ann Meyer, 75, of Kiester died peacefully on February 14, 2020 at Parkview Care Center. She was surrounded by family and passed away after a nearly two-year struggle with cancer. She taught elementary education, preschool, and Head Start. Mary was involved in church, 4-H, school activities, being a farm wife, and being a supporter of her family. She is survived by her husband James, five sons, twelve grandchildren, a brother and a sister, and many nieces, nephews, and extended family. https://www.albertleatribune.com/author/submitted_albertlea/

Ruth P. Black, 92, of Hornick, IA passed away on February 16, 2020 at Pleasant View Care Center in Whiting, Iowa. Ruth loved teaching and taught at Onawa Community School and Westwood Community Elementary School. She enjoyed all sports but especially the Iowa Hawkeyes, decorating, shopping, family and friends, and reading. Survivors include her son and daughter, two grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her mother and her husband Ed. <https://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/obituaries/ruth-p-black>

In Honor/In Memory

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for **Donna Heim Epley** '52 from the "girls": **Roberta Randolph Chaffee**, **Ester Wind-born Handsaker** '52, **Hollyce Anderson Neumeyer** '50, **Lois Schlender Propp**, **Joan Hilgenfeld Zoeller** '52

\$20.00 Memorial Donation for **Phyllis Bechtle Miller** '59 from **Deloris Bechtle Knight** '61.

\$30.00 Honor Donation for **Dr. Wayne Marty** faculty from **Mary Ann Scheiding Moline** '60.

\$40.00 Donation to Alumni Newsletter by **Sandra Halverson** '66.



IN MEMORY/IN HONOR BOOKS

Making a donation in someone's name who is deceased places that person's information in a special section of our *MEMORY* book on a stand in the Westmar Room. The page will also include donor names.

Donations may also be made in *HONOR* of someone living, with Westmar ties. A page will also be entered for that person in that section of the book.

Each page includes a photo, if possible, and a biographical sketch. Additional donations are added to the bottom of the page.



DONATIONS NOVEMBER 2019—February 2020

11/4/2019	\$5.00	William Arnold
11/4/2019	\$80.00	Jolane Bakley
11/4/2019	\$50.00	Lexia DeWit
11/4/2019	\$10.00	Donna Golliher
11/4/2019	\$15.00	Dennis Gruber
11/4/2019	\$50.00	Ann Heimberger
11/4/2019	\$10.00	Kenneth Hellar
11/4/2019	\$100.00	Ardeth Mason
11/4/2019	\$25.00	Dolores Roepke
11/11/2019	\$100.00	Helen Jean Andres
11/11/2019	\$30.00	Joyce Gelhaus
11/13/2019	\$25.00	Paulette Hamlin
11/13/2019	\$15.00	Arthur Murdoch
11/18/2019	\$15.00	Dennis & Marcia Johnson
11/18/2019	\$100.00	Larry & Darlene Pals
11/18/2019	\$5.00	John & Lorelei Vollmar
11/20/2019	\$15.00	Boyd & Evelyn Blumer
11/20/2019	\$5.00	Dwight Moritz
11/20/2019	\$50.00	William Wood
11/25/2019	\$30.00	Marilyn Forsberg
11/25/2019	\$30.00	Dixie Kooiker
11/25/2019	\$20.00	Linda Stauffer
11/27/2019	\$5.00	Mary Elan VerMulm
12/3/2019	\$15.00	Steve & Barbara Baier
12/26/2019	\$10.00	Michael Breen
12/26/2019	\$30.00	Cory Isebrand
12/26/2019	\$150.00	Dixie & Calvin Kooiker
12/26/2019	\$30.00	Deanna Majeres
12/31/2019	\$100.00	David Collins
12/31/2019	\$50.00	Carol Lange

1/22/2020	\$20.00	Kathleen Hawkins
1/28/2020	\$20.00	Kathleen Semke
2/11/2020	\$30.00	Nancy Berry
2/11/2020	\$15.00	Amy & Jeff Kelly
2/11/2020	\$20.00	Robert Mohning
2/11/2020	\$10.00	Dale Stone
2/18/2020	\$30.00	Angela Kneip
2/18/2020	\$65.00	Keith Schlender
2/18/2020	\$50.00	Daniel Wierda
2/27/2020	\$20.00	Darlene Lobenstein

Scholarship Awards

Thank you!

As a recipient of a 2019-2020 Westmar scholarship, I would like to personally thank you for your support. I am a junior at Morningside this year, and I am majoring in chemistry and biology. I am on track to graduate with both degrees in 2021 with plans to attend graduate school. I am involved in many clubs and activities on campus and have started doing research with a professor.

This scholarship has helped me focus more on my studies instead of worrying as much about financial problems. This allows me to work small part-time jobs and still be able to focus on school above all else.

I am very grateful to represent Westmar and am honored to carry on the excellent tradition of higher learning. My parents met at Westmar and tell me stories of how much they enjoyed their time there, and the lessons they learned while attending. I am thankful to have your support as I take my own journey at Morningside.

Skyler Briggs

Westmar University Alumni & Friends Association
 335 First Avenue S.W.
 Le Mars, Iowa 51031
 Ph: 712-546-8759



Alumni Office Staff:

Kristin Olson: Executive Director + Staff

Please contact me with any questions about the newsletter, Facebook page, reunions, or anything else you may think to ask. Call me at 712-546-8759 or email me at wafa@westmarcollege.org. Thank you!

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Be sure to check out our ever-changing website at:

<http://www.WestmarCollege.org/>. We offer online shopping and membership. Suggestions are always welcome.

Current Members: You will now receive an email reminder when it is time to renew your membership. Please pass the form in the newsletter on to other Westmar Alum and encourage them to be a Wafa member today!

Wafa Dues Support These Activities:

- Work with the Iowa College Foundation to administer the Westmar Endowment Scholarship
- Provide Alumni & contact assistance for 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 www.westmarcollege.org



Do you have any Westmar items you would like to donate to the Archives or for the Westmar room display? We are always looking for Westmar Memorabilia. Good copies of photos or certificates are also welcome.

We are always in need of donations! Donations from people like you keep the Westmar Alumni and Friends Association up and running! Remember, a donation and membership are items that can be deducted on your taxes.