

Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 4 November 2021

Gary Bowling Art Exhibit



Lily Pad Shelter Oil on Canvas

The Le Mars Arts Center currently has an exhibit, "Passing Time," Sept. 14-Nov. 6, 2021, featuring the works of Gary Bowling and his wife, Linda.

Bowling was the art instructor and chairman of the Art Department at Westmar College in Le Mars for nine years.

In 1981, he took a sabbatical and had the good fortune to spend that fall at Yaddo, an artist's colony in Saratoga Springs, New York. Very few artists are accepted into Yaddo, which is renowned for recognizing young talent and helping to foster it.

"My work there became more focused and it clarified my interests in landscape painting. I left Westmar and teaching for good in 1983 in order to concentrate on my painting full time," Bowling said.

On his website, Bowling said, "My artistic interests changed dramatically over the nine years I taught at Westmar. Possibly because I found myself spending so much time in a basement office, my paintings evolved into an exploration of light and atmosphere and ideas associated with the landscape.

I became particularly interested in the landscape as experienced from the highway, and features that suggested a demarcation between public and private space."

He said that it's the different places and environments, that's the thing that intrigues him, how something can feel so personal and vital to one person, but the same kind of thing, is personal and vital to other people who have the same kind of experience but with a different moment and place altogether.

Though collected internationally, Gary tends to focus on painting scenes in Missouri and Kansas, while also interpreting regions of New Mexico and France. But it is his scenes of the Midwest that have brought him the most acclaim, just as Monet's scenes of rural France did the same for him in the 19th Century. Gary works primarily in oils, and spends a great deal of time on each canvas. In fact some works can take several months to complete. He is considered a master of his medium, and after several decades of hard work he has indeed entered the golden period of his career.



https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2905290.html https://leopoldgallery.com/artist/gary-bowling

DONATIONS May—September 2021

\$0-\$49		
5/13/2021	James Conley	General
5/13/2021	Beverly Job	General
5/13/2021	Mary Peshek	General
7/15/2021	Linda Brown	General
7/15/2021	Ben Bye	General
7/27/2021	JoAnn Wer	General
7/27/2021	James Oplinger	General
8/24/2021	Joyce Fridley Duncklee	General
8/24/2021	Kenneth Boettcher	General
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9/7/2021	Ester Handsaker	General
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9/7/2021	Gaylia Weber	General
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9/15/2021	Dayton Molendorp	General
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9/15/2021	Paul & Marcia Wiener	General
9/15/2021	Gayle Krughoff	General
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\$50-\$99

7/12/2021	David & Cheryl Hantke	General
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\$100 and up

5/13/2021	Gregory Engelke	General
7/12/2021	Darrell Gorter	General
7/27/2021	Joan Zoeller	General
8/24/2021	Rosella Campbell Davis	General

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

***Please consider making your own donation to WAFA. Donations were down significantly from the last newsletter. WAFA relies on these donations to keep the office running. We greatly appreciate it!



Honor and Memory Contributions

\$80.00 Honor Donation for Wanda Chittenden from Mae Belle Powell '66.

\$30 Memorial Donation for Gretta Lawson Buller '56 from Bruce Buller '55.

\$50 Honor Memorial for **Dr. Wayne Marty** from **Darold** '62 and **Diane** '65 **Wolff**.

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for **Dr. Hayes McGraw** from **Dr. Roger Hutchison** '63.

\$20.00 Memorial Donation for Valda Franz Embree '71 from Robert Embree '51.

\$100.00 Memorial Donation for **Dr. Hayes McGraw** from **Dr. Roger Hutchison** '63.

\$65.00 Memorial Donation for Janette Reece Hutchison '60 from Bob '57 and Jean '59 Hefty.

\$50.00 Honor Donation for **Dr. Frank Summerside** from **Joan Elsheimer Darby** '68.

\$50.00 Memorial Donation for Mark Brighton '87 from Keith Emerson '84.

Remember Westmar in Your Will

Many people choose to make their alma mater a beneficiary of their estate. Although Westmar is closed, it is still possible to support your college.

If your current will includes Westmar, please make sure it reads "Westmar University Alumni and Friends Association, 335 First Ave SW, Le Mars, IA 51031."

If you have not thought about a gift to Westmar, please do so. As a guideline, it should be worded "I leave \$xxxx to Westmar University Alumni and Friends w 335 First Ave SW, Le Mars, IA 51031. This will ensure that your generosity will continue to support the alumni association.

WAFA is a 501(c)(3) and is considered a charitable organization.

Speak to your attorney about a gift to your college. Thank you.

Volunteers Needed!

The holiday season is fast approaching, but if you are considering what to do with any extra time you may have, consider volunteering for WAFA. An upcoming project is the Pioneer Village Christmas Wonderland at the Plymouth County Fairgrounds. A tree is provided (no live trees), but we need volunteers to decorate the Westmar tree on Wednesday, November 24th, Friday, November 26th, Saturday, November 27th, or Monday, November 29th from 9am-4pm.

The Pioneer Village Christmas Wonderland will be open during the weekends of Saturday and Sunday, December 4-5, 2021, and 11-12, 2021. Century Hall will be open for viewing the trees during the hours of 5:30-8:30pm.

Decorations need to be taken down either Sunday, December 12th after 8:30pm or Monday, December 13th from 9-4pm.

We have the Westmar decorations in storage here at the museum. We just need some volunteers to help decorate and tear down. We haven't had volunteers in quite a while. This would be a great opportunity to reconnect with Westmar Alum while getting into the Christmas spirit.

Please call Kristin at 546-8759 or email at wafa@westmarcollege.org as soon as possible. **Registration is due November 15, 2021**, so I need to know ASAP if there are people interested in representing Westmar. Thank you!!!

LAST CALL FOR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS

Dr. Wayne Marty is working on a project and would like to know how many of you belonged in the Peace Corps.

Please either email Kristin at wafa@westmar college.org, or send a note to the following address:

WAFA 335 1st Ave SW Le Mars, IA 51031

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this project!

Alumni News

After 42 years at Gehlen, **Lorie Nussbaum** '78 is ending her education career as TK-6 grade principal from the same place where she started her education as a first grade student. After graduating from high school from Le Mars Community Schools, she attended Westmar College .

She says, "My major was home economics education. I graduated from Westmar in 1978. During college, I commuted the first year and then married Gene in 1975. We lived in married housing at Westmar for the next three years as I completed by degree."

Her first job after graduating from Westmar was at Gehlen teaching Home Arts. She continued that for 19 years. Then she was encouraged to get an administration degree and eventually received an elementary/middle school administrative degree.

While she has thoroughly enjoyed the staff and students, Nussbaum said she is looking forward to a less hectic schedule. However, she will miss the people and the energy and excitement of the students. She plans to fill that time with more time with her children and grandchildren. Plus, she has eight siblings in the area.

Just because she's retiring doesn't mean she's cutting ties with Gehlen. "Gehlen Catholic, the entire Catholic faith community, Westmar College, and the community of Le Mars have been such gifts to me," she said.

https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2893902.html

Please add WAFA to your email address book.

Don't miss a newsletter or important email message. Some emails always come back to us as being blocked when the group email is sent. Even trying to send a blocked email by itself keeps it blocked. If you are a WAFA member and haven't been getting your newsletters, this could be the reason why. Please put wafa@westmarcollege.org into your approved emails so that you continue to receive messages and the newsletters.

Also, please let Kristin know when your information has changed. Several membership renewal postcards have been returned because the information was not updated. We don't want to lose you!!!

Alumni Deaths

'54—Loretta Bahr Stein, 90, passed away on June 20, 2021 in Naperville, IL. After graduating from Central High School in Grand Forks, ND, she moved to Le Mars to attend Westmar College. There, she studied religion, and she also met her future husband who was also from North Dakota, Jim Stein. They were married in 1953, and they moved to Naperville, IL, so Jim could attend the Master of Divinity Program. Loretta spent her professional life working as a secretary for various companies. She spent the last 15 years before retirement working as Assistant General Secretary for the United Methodist Church in Evanston, IL.. Personally, she and Jim had daughter Mary Beth and adopted son Paul. She was dedicated to her family and church and thought of as friendly, generous, and kind. She is survived by her husband Jim, 1 daughter, 1 daughter-inlaw, 4 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren. https://www.beidelmankunschfh.com/obituaries/Loretta-B-Stein?obld=21484610

'57—Lawrence "Larry" Dunphy, 89, of Perry, IA passed away on July 5, 2021 at his home. After graduating from Westmar in 1957 with an education degree, he married Carolyn Coppock that June. They were married until Carolyn passed away in November of 2000. Larry taught and coached at Waukee and Earlham before moving to Perry, IA in 1969. He taught and coached at Perry until his retirement in 1994. He led the Perry Golf League to a 3A State Championship in 1983. Larry was a lifelong Fighting Irish and Dodgers fan. He enjoyed golf, fishing, and spending time with friends and family. He is survived by 4 sons, 1 daughter, 1 brother, 1 sister, 10 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. https://www.desmoinesregister.com/obituaries/dmr114531

'58-Charles Edward Kehrberg, 85, of Roseville, IA passed away on August 4, 2021 surrounded by his loving family. After graduating from Westmar in 1958, he obtained his Master of Music Education Degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder in 1961. He married his wife of 62 years, Margie Cleveland, in 1959. Charles taught band in several communities before serving as UNISERV Director in SW Minnesota. He was actively involved in Kiwanis, Como Carousel, Habitat for Humanity, church mission trips, and served in many more ways musically and in mission service. He will be remembered for his musical gifts, generous nature, and sense of humor. He is survived by his wife Marge, 3 daughters, 1 son, 8 grandchildren, 2 greatgrandchildren, 2 brothers, and two sisters-in-law. https://www.startribune.com/obituaries/ detail/0000399392

home on April 24, 2021. He attended Westmar College where he earned a BA in physics, mathematics, and natural sciences. He went on to receive his Master's Degree in radiological sciences and his Ph.D. in radiation biology. He was a program manager of the Internal Dosimetry program and a member of several scientific societies. He was a leader in the establishment of the Department of Energy's beryllium disease prevention program, and he served on the Department of Energy's Central Beryllium Institutional Review Board. He is survived by his wife of nearly 30 years, Joyce, 3 sons, 2 daughters, 9 grand-children, 1 great-grandchild, and 3 sisters. https://www.horancares.com/obituary/Robert-Bistline

'63 - James Allen List, 80, of Le Mars, IA, passed away on July 8, 2021, at his home following a brief illness. Following high school, he attended Westmar College. James studied agriculture through his junior year before returning to the family farm to assist his father. In 1961, he married Mary Ann Langenhorst and for the next 37 years, made their home farming near Granville, IA. Seeking a change, they moved to Independence, KS where he worked for Cessna Aircraft Company as a riveter. After retiring, they returned to Le Mars. James was a member of All Saints Catholic Parish in Le Mars. He was also a private pilot and a self-taught machinist. He is survived by his wife of 59 years Mary Ann, 4 daughters, 2 sons, 15 grandchildren, 6 great-grandchildren 11 sisters & their spouses, 2 brothers and 1 sister-in-law. https:// mauerjohnson fh.com/book-of-memories/4663907/List-James/index.php

'65—John Warren Foley, 83, of New Mexico passed away on July 8, 2021. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Air Force where he earned the rank of first class. He served 6 years through the cold war. In 1959, he married Violet Gimbel. He then went on to earn degrees at Westmar College and Evangelical Theological Seminary. John worked at Arc US, Arc NM, Mid-Nebraska, and Arc Nebraska, improving the lives of people with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD). He was also active in several charitable organizations as well as with his church. He is survived by his wife of 61 years Violet, 2 daughters, and 2 granddaughters. https://www.danielsfuneral.com

'67—**Helen Poll Ver Hoeven**, 92, of Hawarden, IA, and formerly of Ireton passed away on August 8, 2021 at Hawarden Regional Healthcare Hospital. After graduating from Ireton High School in 1947, she married Anthony Ver Hoeven in 1951. In 1967, she graduated from Westmar College and taught elementary and middle school in local communities. She was very active in her church and her community. She is survived by 1 son,

Alumni Deaths

1 daughter, 2 grandchildren, 3 great-grandchildren, 1 sister, 1 brother-in-law, 1 sister-in-law, and special friends. https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/siouxcity journal/name/helen-ver-hoeven-obituary?pid=199723623

'72—Charlotte Fullerton Koch, 90, passed away on July 19, 2021. In 1951, she married Donald Koch, and they moved to rural Akron, IA, where they farmed. During that time, Charlotte attended Westmar College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1972. After Donald's death in 1989, she ultimately moved to Boonville, MO, where she worked for a number of years as a GED teacher for the Boonville Correctional Facility. She is survived by 5 sons, 12 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and 2 sisters. https://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2897248.html

'87-Mark Raymond Brighton, 58, of Marcus, IA, passed away on August 28, 2021 at his home. After graduating from Graettinger High School, he attended Westmar College. There, he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in physical education and elementary education in 1987. In 1995, he graduated from Drake University with a Master of Science in educational administration. Teaching and coaching were Mark's life. He began teaching at Meriden-Cleghorn School in 1987 as a physical education instructor. He continued to teach there through the consolidation with Marcus in 1993 and Remsen Union in 2016. He also served as a reading and spelling instructor, health teacher, and junior high athletic director. Mark enjoyed every moment spent following his children through school. His kids were his everything. He is survived by 1 daughter, 2 sons, 1 brother, 1 sister, 2 nephews, and 2 nieces along with many other relatives and friends. www.https:// www.greenwoodfuneral.com/obituary.php?view=1757

'88-Todd M. Savary, 55, of Sergeant Bluff, IA passed away on August 27, 2021, at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls, SD. After graduating from East High School in Sioux City, IA, he attended Westmar University where he excelled in basketball. He transferred to the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, SD, and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in business administration. On August 27, 1988, Todd was united in marriage with Kristine "Kris" Harris in Sioux City. For most of his career, he was an independent contractor selling tools for 5 Star Shop Services. He was a member of the Church of the Nativity, was an avid hunter, and was very active in youth sports. Todd is survived by his wife Kris, 1 daughter, 2 sons, his parents, 1 sister, and many other relatives and friends. http://www.legacv.com/ us/obituaries/siouxcityjournal/name/todd-savary-obituary? pid=199980090

Alumni News

'66—Richard Gist served in the Air Force Special Intelligence, spending a year studying Russian at the University of Syracuse. After he got out, Gist "felt the call of God," as he said. That call sent him to Westmar for his bachelor's degree. He then went on to seminary at the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, for his master's in divinity.

Gist served as a minister until 1997. After that, he has written a few books as well. "Ayshus on the Inside" won a Global Ebook Award in children's literature in 2014. He also wrote "With a Yes and a Yippee" and "You Don't Understand the Bible Because You are Christian."

His most recently published book is a collection of his thoughts on the Bible and religious scholarship entitled "Faith without Fear: Scripture straight up, with spiritual nudges, common sense, and other good stuff (not for fundamentalists)". Gist hopes is will help assuage fears some might have regarding scholarly approaches to the Bible.

Interestingly, the book started as an angry response to a fundamentalist. "I got so angry with a fundamentalist that I had to go home and type out my anger on a keyboard," Gist said. Over a two week period, he was challenged by three fundamentalists: one claiming he was going to hell, another arguing over his interpretation of prophecy, and a third who challenged him with Timothy 3:16. To paraphrase, it states that all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for instruction in righteousness.

Gist says he focuses on the love of God and emphasizes God should not be feared. "My approach is I wasn't asked to be born, God put me in this world," Gist said. "And if God put me in this world, then he's morally responsible for getting me out of it safely."

Along with meditations on the Bible, he explores some of his personal stories of faith. While the book has no uniting theme, the book is a collection of his thoughts, including discussions on both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible. For example Gist has a chapter arguing for the most innocent verse of the Bible as well as the most destructive. Pick up a copy and compare your thoughts to his perspective. https:///www.hometownsource.com/union_times/news/local/princeton-author-pens-new-book-about-the-bible/article_b232a1e6*05fe-11ec-9cd6-a3812d

Alumni News



Members of the **Class of 1969** met at the Iowa Great Lakes this year.

Rich Gaumer, Linda Bonner Gaumer, Milo Sprout, Glenn Jagodzinske and Bruce Rudolph. Spouses attending were Janet (Keith) Brandt, Mary Rudolph, Jan Sprout and Brenda Jagodzinske.

Rosalind Mohnsen (Faculty 1967—1975) presented an organ concert in August on the "Great Organ" at the Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Methuen, MA, as part of the 75th annual summer series of organ recitals. Works of Dupre, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Cochereau, Vierne, James, and Saint-Saens were performed. The program is available on demand at youtube.com/c/methuen memorialmusichall.

'92-Shane Miller is now the Group President of Fresh Meats, the leading supplier of beef, pork, and valueadded products for Tyson. He reports directly to President and CEO, Donnie King, and oversees 35,000 team members and 25 manufacturing facilities. After graduating from Westmar with bachelor's degrees in accounting and finance, he joined IBP, Inc., which was later acquired by Tyson Foods. Working for three decades in the meat industry, he has extensive experience and has held numerous roles. Additionally, he is active in the community. Most recently, he served on the Board of Directors for the Sioux City, Iowa based Camp High Hopes, a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of children and adults with special needs. https://www.tysonfoods.com/who-we-are-our-peopleleadership/shane-miler

Christmas Ideas

In the event that you do not see an item you are looking for on the WAFA website, never fear! There is another option to purchase Westmar items, and they carry golf shirts, long sleeved shirts as well as other clothing items.

Please check out www.getbranded360.com.

If you do see something on the WAFA website that you would like to order, please email Kristin before you do to be sure we have that item in stock. Once we are out of an item, we will not be restocking it. Instead, we are referring people to www.getbranded360.com.





Another great Christmas idea is a membership to WAFA!

Since the organization is called Westmar Alumni and Friends Association, anyone can join. Do you know someone who isn't a member? Please give us the name and address, and we will send them a complimentary issue of the WAFA newsletter.

You may also send in the registration fee, and we will add them to our registration list so that they may start receiving the WAFA newsletter.



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.

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!

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 \$25.00	\$
Couples \$35.00 General donation to help sustain your	
Alumni Association	\$
In Memory/Honor of (circle one)	\$
TOTAL ENCLOSED	- \$
Return this form to:	Y
WAFA 335 First Avenue S.W.	
Le Mars, Iowa 51031 Or complete form online at www.westmard	pollogo org/Momborchin html
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Westmar University Alumni & Friends Association

335 First Avenue S.W. Le Mars, Iowa 51031 Ph: 712-546-8759



Kristin Olson: Executive Director Staff of volunteers

Please contact me with any questions about membership, 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!

Please keep us posted when you move or get a new email address or phone number. We no longer get updates unless <u>YOU</u> let us know. Email Kristin at wafa@westmarcollege.org with the updated information.

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!

Don't forget to use **AMAZON SMILE** when you order from them. They will donate to Westmar Alumni and Friends Association at no cost to you. It all helps us!

Please be sure to do your holiday shopping online at www.getbranded360.com. They have a variety of Westmar items for you to order, and Westmar gets a portion of the proceeds.

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 room display?

We are always looking for Sports Memorabilia as well as items from other groups for display.

Good copies of photos or certificates are also welcome.



