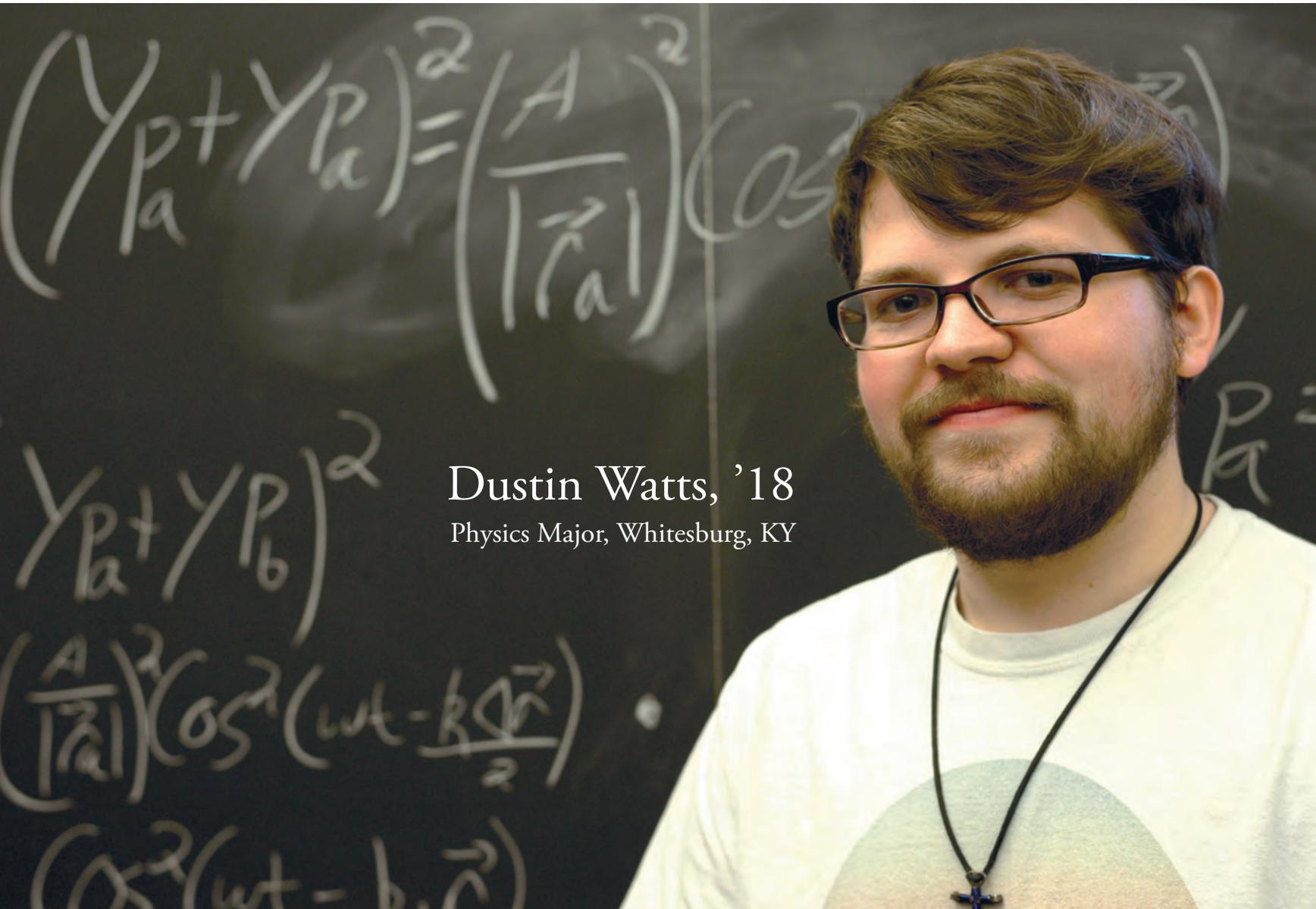


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Jay Buckner

A 2015 mid-year graduate shares her inspiration with the world.

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Front Cover: In November, President Lyle Roelofs invited members of the campus community to join him in a Unity Rally. Many students, faculty, staff and members of the Berea Community came together to demonstrate their belief that “God hath made of one blood all nations of men.” Photos by Caleb Coffey, '17.



BEREA COLLEGE MAGAZINE

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Magazine: www.berea.edu/magazine/

Berea College Magazine (ISSN 1539-7394) is published quarterly for Berea College alumni and friends by the Berea College Integrated Marketing & Communications Department. Periodicals postage pending at Berea, KY, and additional mailing offices.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to the Berea College Office of Alumni Relations, CPO 2203, Berea KY 40404.

Berea College is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization under federal guidelines.



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“HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?”

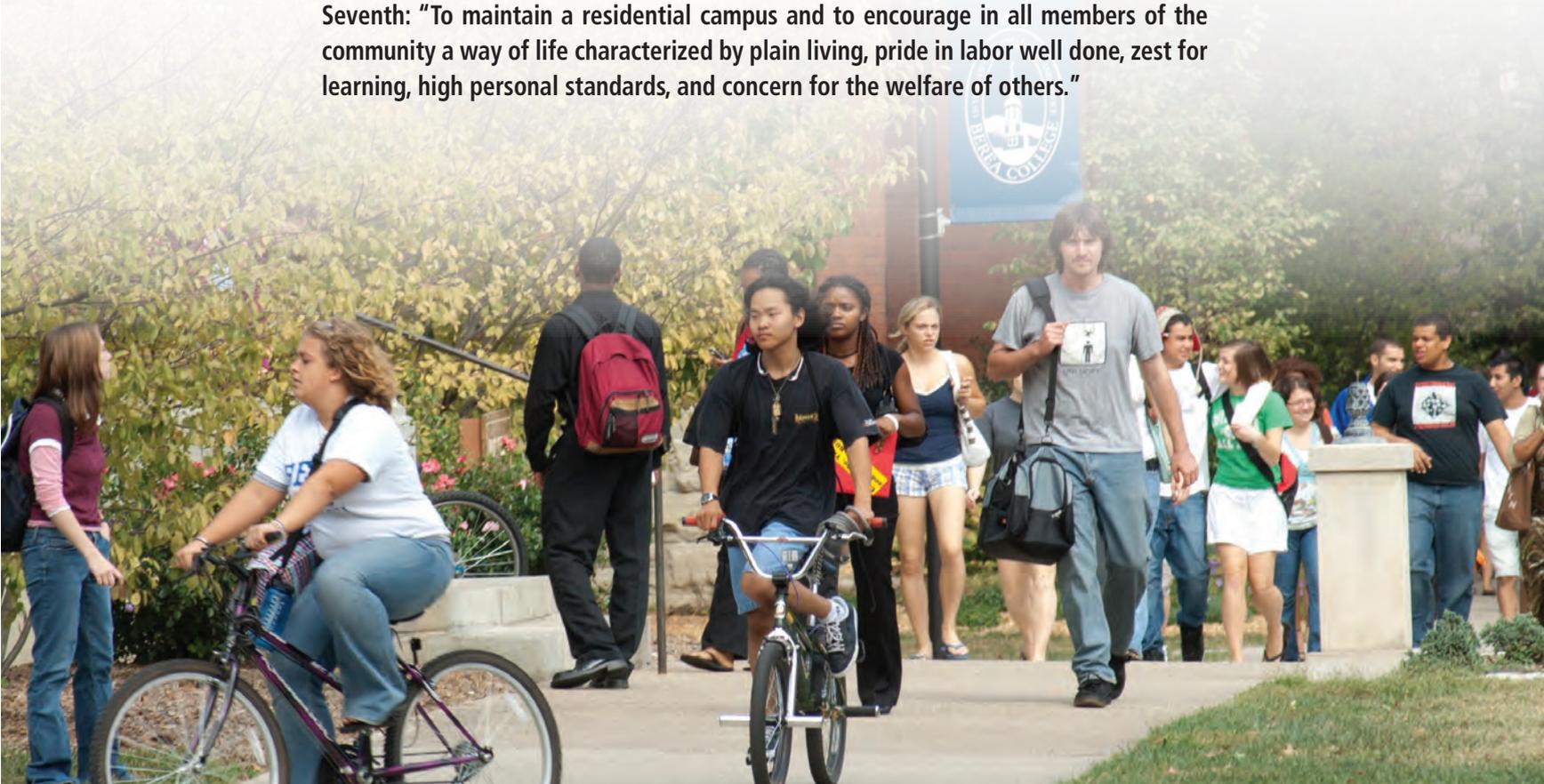
By Lyle D. Roelofs

Near the end of his life, the great 20th century theologian and philosopher Francis Shaeffer summarized the entirety of his thought in a book entitled with the question that serves as the title of this essay. I think our Sixth and Seventh Great Commitments provide Berea College’s answer to that question.



Sixth: “To create a democratic community dedicated to education and equality for women and men.”

Seventh: “To maintain a residential campus and to encourage in all members of the community a way of life characterized by plain living, pride in labor well done, zest for learning, high personal standards, and concern for the welfare of others.”



We sometimes simplify these as the commitments to co-education and sustainability, but there is much more than that here. The Sixth Great Commitment pairs with the Fifth – the interracial commitment – in proclaiming that the inclusive goals of Berea’s founding mean everyone, black and white, male and female, is deserving of education. Also, the phrasing of the Sixth Commitment wonderfully connects the goals of co-education to the principles of democracy as a foundation for our academic community.

Here, as in other areas, Berea College significantly anticipated societal developments in our nation. Our commitment to the education of women substantially preceded national movements for women’s political equality. The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (women’s suffrage) was drafted in 1878, almost 20 years after Berea was formally incorporated, but it was not approved by Congress and sent to the states for ratification until 1919. The states took only one year to ratify the amendment, and it was added to the Constitution in 1920 when Tennessee became the 36th state to ratify it. (Kentucky was the 23rd state to ratify the amendment, and I would be interested to learn if Berea College played a role in that.) Still, ratification came more than 60 years after our founding and 50 years after Berea formed its first college class in 1869, consisting of four young men and a young woman. By 1874, Ladies Hall (now called Fairchild) had been built to accommodate 96 female students.

One more observation from history, then on to the present. The motivation for coeducation may have been Berea founder John G. Fee’s vision of impartial love, but when President Edward Henry Fairchild presented the idea to the public, he did so with a social utilitarian argument in which women functioned rather like moderators in a nuclear power reactor. “Rowdyism,” he said, was “the natural result of separating young men from the society of ladies,” and he thought it “almost unknown and impossible in a school of both sexes.” I suspect this line of argument was necessary to persuade skeptics that the College was right to admit females. Certainly, female

students did much more than temper the behavior of rowdy young males. Right from the start, female graduates had a major impact in the region, taking on the lion’s share of teaching and nursing positions that were urgently needed throughout Appalachia. Clearly, our Founders were ahead of their time in understanding something that is obvious to us now – that a mixed-gender community is a better learning environment for men and women, just as an interracial community is better for all members.

So, how are we doing today? Currently, female students both outnumber and outperform male students at Berea (and at many other selective colleges as well), so I guess that we males should be relieved that the phrasing of the Sixth Commitment covers men, too.

In terms of the other constituencies that make up our community – faculty and staff – we have achieved rough parity. Still, other challenges remain. On the Board of Trustees, we have 10 women and 22 men serving, which though quite good relative to the boards of similar institutions, is not the balance that we are seeking to achieve at Berea. In terms of faculty and institutional leadership through the governance structure, women and men share the positions and responsibilities fairly equally. For example, the Administrative Committee, which is

responsible for matters of finance, physical properties and internal management of the College, currently has three women as part of its eight-person membership. Not wanting to leave the obvious unsaid, Berea has not yet had a female president. Our run of nine consecutive white-male presidents is, of course, statistically improbable – the odds of that happening randomly are only about 1 in 500. I gather, however, that the most recently concluded search had strong representation of both genders in the pool of candidates, so perhaps those odds are changing.

Living out our inclusive mission and being the best educational community we can be requires a commitment to a democratic community and to gender equality.

BUT HOW ELSE SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Seventh Commitment has been referred to by some as the “kitchen sink,” because it does indeed cover a lot of ground – plain living, pride in our work, zest for learning, high standards and concern for the welfare of all.

Often we focus on the “plain living” phrase, wondering what can that possibly mean for living in the complex 21st century. We must interact with a highly connected and technological society, and the global aspects of those connections have more and more significance for Bereans everywhere.



From 2010 to 2014, female students accounted for 64.6% of graduates in biology, chemistry and physics.

The phrase is inspired by tradition and a largely self-sufficient way of life that prevailed in our Appalachian region before the advent of widespread resource extraction activities, particularly the coal and timber industries.

It is important to remember that Appalachian-style “plain living” was by no means simple. James Still’s novel, *River of Earth*, talks about the dislocation of lives that occurred as a result of the advent of coal mining. The disruption was not that the mines destroyed the land or the streams (that came later), but that when men went down into the mines, they could not do the year-round set of carefully orchestrated activities required for a subsistence agricultural life to succeed. If you didn’t plant in the spring, you couldn’t harvest in the fall, and there was a great deal of highly specialized knowledge that made it all work.

So, the advent of mining had two effects. First, in a single generation, that lore was lost. More importantly, due to its immediate effect on lives, was the cyclical nature of work in the mines. It was fine, financially, while the work lasted; the pay enabled a more plentiful lifestyle for families, but when layoffs occurred or mines closed and the operations moved to another location, families could not fall back on their former lifestyle, because it



An interior view of “Deep Green” Residence Hall, which earned Petal Certification by meeting all imperatives of the Living Building Challenge™.

could not be pursued for just part of the year. Eventually, the “coal town” was invented, which led to another sort of vulnerability.

So plain living’s distinguishing feature has never been simplicity. Rather, sustainability is a more apt characterization. The lifestyle could be sustained over generations because of its low impact on the land, and because the knowledge needed to maintain it could be passed along from one generation to the next. The

evolution of resource extraction industries in Appalachia has often been antithetical to this vision – large-scale, clear-cutting of forests can damage ecosystems for generations and mountaintop removal mining is the very epitome of environmental destruction.

HOW, THEN, SHOULD WE LIVE? CERTAINLY NOT THAT WAY!

So, it is consistent with the Seventh Commitment that at Berea we have an emphasis on sustainability that extends from our building practices to the way we handle our waste streams, to our local and organic farming operations, to managing our forest assets, to rolling all of that into the educational experience of our students, so they can take those attitudes and practices with them wherever they go.

But the Seventh Commitment and the question of “how, then, should we live” go well beyond environmental sustainability. There is sustainability of our health and well-being (we call it wellness); there is sustainability of our economic lives (financial literacy); there is sustainability of our political lives (civic participation); there is sustainability of our social fabric, which we develop by maintaining a residential campus community that enables us to work and serve with people from a variety of cultural backgrounds and personal experiences.

In short, the Sixth and Seventh Great Commitments are a profound statement about the ethics of personal and institutional choice. I am proud, as I believe we all are, to be part of a college that signals in its mission statement how ethical choice is foundational to education and community. Berea’s history of lifting up democratic ideals that precede societal standards, as in our early adoption of coeducation and our embrace of sustainability long before that became ubiquitous, defines how we as a College choose to exist and characterizes the transformational education we offer our students.



In the fall, international students are welcomed to the Berea community through the “All Peoples of the Earth Worship Service.”



“NEVER IN A Berean’s Jo

By Tim Jordan, '76 and Jason Lee Miller

On June 26, 2014 Randy Johnson, '91, completed a journey by standing in a place he never thought he'd be. With three of his four children and his husband Paul Campion – now officially and legally a family – he descended the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court.

The Court decision on the legality of same-sex marriage stated: “The 14th Amendment requires a State to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-State.” The area around the Supreme Court was awash in a sea of gay pride flags, supporters and opponents of same-sex marriage, media and television cameras from around the world.

Paul pulled the kids together and tried to prepare them for the ugliness that awaited them as they moved down the street. Illustrating his warning, one bystander shouted, “If you were in a burning building, I wouldn't call the fire department!”

Randy recalled how the comment stung and riled him, but “it was Tevin, our 20-year old,” he said, “who was coaching me, saying ‘Shake it off, Dad.’”

What the young man was asking his father to shake off, though, was actually a lifetime of harsh commentary.

Paul Campion (left) and Randy Johnson, '91, stand on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court building

A MILLION YEARS": Journey to the Supreme Court

HOME FOR A TROUBLED TEEN

"My minister would say things like 'Fags should burn and be removed from the earth,'"

said Randy, recalling his youth in rural Bullitt County, Kentucky. Such pronouncements were "tough for a teenager" struggling with sexual identity. "I wouldn't admit it to myself and just suppressed my feelings."

The troubled teen considered taking his life; Johnson credits Berea with saving it. "Berea College became home to me," he said, and in his new home he was able to develop healthy and positive relationships with faculty and fellow students.

Randy settled into his college career, one of nine nursing majors and the only male. In spite of the rigorous demands of the nursing program, he excelled and found time for extracurricular life. He joined the swim team, Students for Appalachia, the Campus Activities Board and became the vice president of the Berea College Association of Student Nursing.

Such experiences would have been out of reach without Berea's financial assistance, and, Randy noted, so would a more open mind and an open future. "The College opened up so many ideas and possibilities I wouldn't have had, had I not come to Berea."

A QUIET BUT CONTROVERSIAL LIFE

Even so, he never considered that his soul mate might be another man until he met Paul Campion a few months after graduation, when Randy began his nursing career in the critical care and open heart unit of a Louisville hospital.

Paul, raised in a Catholic family in New York, was an elementary school teacher at that time and is now a school counselor. Randy's nursing career also progressed. He became a trauma nurse at the University of Louisville Hospital, followed by the Veterans Hospital where he has held a number of positions for the past 16 years – from associate chief of surgery to associate chief of medicine to chief of quality management, among other short-term medical management and director roles.

Both men placed great value on family, and their early conversations centered on their mutual desire to be parents. "Having a loving family was our goal," explained Johnson. They knew they could make their home available to children who needed a caring home. "We spent a few years researching how a couple like us could adopt."

Their first two sons, twins Tevin and Tyler, were adopted by Campion the day after they were born in 1995. Another son, DeSean, was adopted by Johnson, who later adopted daughter Mackenzie. "Our lives revolve around our kids," said



A swirl of attention by national media surrounded Johnson's family.

Johnson. "From the day they were born they were our number one priority."

The couple chose to live quietly in Bullitt County, just south of Louisville, without drawing attention to themselves. However, they sensed that being a family with four African-American children and non-traditional parents might present some unwelcome challenges, so they decided to move to Louisville. There they started a parenting group – the Greater Louisville Chapter of Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International.

Johnson and Campion kept their activism local and low-key, and did not become more visible activists in the gay rights movement until their kids were old enough to understand and be a part of the decision.

JOINING THE MOVEMENT

From the time they met in 1991, Johnson and Campion have been committed to one another. Seventeen years later, during a family vacation to visit Paul's brother in California, he suggested that they could get married while they were there since the state recognized same-sex marriages. So in June 2008, they were married in Palm Springs, with their kids participating in the ceremony.

Back in Louisville, the family continued to live quietly, going to work, going to school, and enjoying the children's social activities and events. Even so, there always seemed to be dark shadows of concern. Knowing that Kentucky law did not recognize their California marriage, they worried what might happen if one parent became ill or died and the other had no legal or financial protections to continue caring for the children. Under the laws in place at the time, only one of them could be the legal parent, and they had to be very selective in choosing healthcare providers.

"Paul and I spent a lot of time being mindful of who the 'legal' parent was," Johnson explained. "Only the legal parent can provide consent for medical treatment or make medical decisions. We were careful of who we took them to – those providers who would recognize us as a family even if Kentucky [statutes] would not."

"That's one of the reasons why marriage equality is so important to us, so that all four kids can be legally both of ours," Campion added.

Such nagging concerns led them to become more vocal in advocating for the rights of same-sex couples and would eventually put them into the national spotlight. "Being activists was not part of our plan," said Johnson, "but we're opposed to discrimination of any kind and wanted to show our kids that we were standing up for what we believe."

Their children were 18, 14 and 10 when Randy and Paul became involved in a case against the Kentucky statutes. They held a family meeting and discussed pros and cons. Johnson said their kids' response was, "Of course you should get involved. It is so obvious to us!"



Twins Tyler and Tevin flank their younger siblings, DeSean and Mackenzie.

Knowing that Kentucky law did not recognize their California marriage, they worried what might happen if one parent became ill or died.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS

In July 2013, Johnson and Campion joined three other same-sex couples in Louisville in a lawsuit against Kentucky Governor Steve Beshear. The case (*Bourke v. Beshear*) called for Kentucky to recognize their same-sex marriages, all of which had been legally performed elsewhere.

In February 2014, U.S. District Judge John G. Heyburn II ruled in favor of the plaintiffs and partially struck down Kentucky's same-sex marriage ban, ruling that out-of-state marriages must be recognized. Heyburn's order was put on hold pending the state's appeal. Two days later, a second lawsuit (*Love v. Beshear*) was filed before Heyburn, asking that Kentucky issue its own marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Heyburn ruled in favor of the plaintiffs in that case as well, eliminating Kentucky's same-sex marriage ban entirely in July. But once again he put the order on hold pending an appeal by the state.

By August 2014, Kentucky and three other states – Michigan, Ohio and Tennessee – argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in favor of their respective same-sex marriage bans that had been ruled unconstitutional in federal district court. In November, a 2-1 ruling reversed the lower courts and upheld the bans.

Ultimately, the U.S. Supreme Court decided to review the U.S. Court of Appeals' decision and consider two constitutional questions: 1) Does the 14th Amendment require a state to issue a marriage license to same-sex couples?; and 2) Does it require a state to recognize a same-sex marriage that was lawfully licensed and performed in another state where such marriages are legal?

THE SPOTLIGHT AND THE SCALES OF JUSTICE

For Johnson and Campion, the second question was especially relevant. In April 2015, the Supreme Court took up the case, which prompted a deluge of national and international media attention.

Except for son Tyler, a student at the



Outfitted with matching t-shirts, Paul, DeSean, Tevin, Mackenzie and Randy prepared to go sightseeing in Washington, D.C.

University of Cincinnati who was involved in a theater production, the whole family traveled to Washington, D.C., to be present at the hearing. Intending also to do some sightseeing while in the nation's capital, the family donned matching t-shirts and headed onto the streets, but they were overwhelmed by the crowds and the high emotions. Outside the Supreme Court, they

saw the long line of people waiting to gain access. They went up and down the line, shaking hands and greeting people. They also realized that traditional sightseeing would have to wait for a later visit.

They were surrounded by a swirl of local and national media outlets. Network television news, the Huffington Post and National Public Radio all told their story. Their son Tevin, a junior majoring in communications at the University of Louisville, participated in two nationally televised interviews, including as a panelist on CBS NewsHour for the American Civil Liberties Union. “We’re so proud of his advocacy,” Johnson stated.



Paul and Randy and their family’s story was covered by dozens of media outlets.

“We don’t want to dictate anyone’s religious beliefs.”

In a national interview with PBS NewsHour, Johnson said, “One of the reasons we joined the lawsuit seeking the State of Kentucky to recognize us as a married couple was because we believe that many people in Kentucky feel threatened by families like ours – as if we are attempting to compromise the integrity of marriage. If they really knew us, they would recognize that we’re not threatening at all. In fact, we just want the same things that they do. We don’t want to dictate anyone’s religious beliefs. We just want them to recognize that civil law is very important to families like ours.”

Johnson and Campion noted that they consider themselves Christians as well.

On the day of the hearing, they met and spoke with many notable individuals, including civil rights lawyer Gloria Allred and Nina Totenberg, legal affairs correspondent for National Public Radio. All of the plaintiffs were escorted into the

chamber and seated in the front of the courtroom – they were seated in front of Justice Elena Kagan, with whom Johnson made eye contact during the proceedings. He wished he could have made eye contact with Justices Thomas and Scalia at the other end of the bench. “We sat there listening attentively,” he said, somewhat amazed that the justices were “considering our life experiences to make a law for the entire country.”

The Supreme Court decision stated: “The 14th Amendment requires a State to license a marriage between two people of the same sex and to recognize a marriage between two people of the same sex when their marriage was lawfully licensed and performed out-of-State.”

For Johnson and Campion, that meant their 2008 marriage in California would now be legally recognized in Kentucky. During a news interview on the day of the decision, Johnson said, “You know, we are very fortunate to be part of history in the making, but really the important thing is that we now can be acknowledged with the dignity of our 24 years together and raising four children together.”

Johnson and Campion now both have legal parental rights over their adopted children.

ONE BLOOD

Johnson didn’t say if he thought of Berea College in that moment when his son instructed him to “shake off” the nasty comments aimed at him outside the Supreme Court. Likely, there were a great number of other concerns running through his mind.

But he did say this: “Berea gave me the strength to admit who I am. I didn’t choose to be gay, but I could choose to have an open mind. Berea College gave me that open mind.”

During Johnson’s time at Berea, administrators discussed rephrasing the College motto, which had been rendered according to the King James Version of Acts 17:26 – God hath made of one blood all nations of men – to a more literal and inclusive translation of “God has made of one blood all peoples of the earth.”

Even now, he says, the inclusiveness of the change gives him “goosebumps.” That inclusiveness provided some of the strength he needed to weather life’s tougher moments.

But, when asked if he had ever imagined being at the center of such a high profile case that would garner international attention, Johnson’s reply was, simply, “Never in a million years!”



NPR’s Nina Totenberg (center) shares a moment with the family before the Supreme Court hearing began.

A BERE A LEGACY: The Inheritance of Emily Auerbach

“A lot of what I do is because of Berea.”

By Jason Lee Miller

In 2003, Dr. Emily Auerbach, professor of 19th century literature at the University of Wisconsin (UW)-Madison, fulfilled an ambition she had nursed for many years. She began an educational outreach program, called the Odyssey Project, in one of the poorest neighborhoods in Madison. However, unlike many programs designed to give adults a second chance, the team-taught UW Odyssey Project does not focus on job skills or training.

Instead, it offers access to the liberal arts. The two-semester program introduces participants to the writings of a diverse group, including Shakespeare, Martin Luther King, Jr., Emily Dickinson, William Blake and Plato. Afterwards, students are offered various kinds of assistance to transition into college.

Like Berea, Odyssey is tuition-free. The program addresses other barriers to entry as well, such as the cost of books and child care – even incarceration. When one student landed back in jail, Emily sent his homework there. Eventually, he graduated.

About two-thirds of Odyssey students continue on toward associate’s and bachelor’s degrees, and some their graduate degrees. Taking advantage of an opportunity not often extended to their community, they use it as a way out and a way up. While the success of the Odyssey program is now clear, people were slow to embrace the idea in the beginning.

“Why would poor people want to read Plato?” a local reporter once asked Dr. Auerbach. To understand their motivation, one needs to hear the stories of Emily’s parents.

THE POWER OF WORDS IN APPALACHIA

Just outside of Knoxville, Tennessee, in the little town of Powell Station, young Wanda Irwin, ’50, watched her mother, Gustava, open hate mail from the locals – mail her father, William, a part-time mail carrier, had delivered. Mrs. Irwin was a teacher who voiced unpopular opinions against the racism of the 1930s.

They could hardly afford the controversy. The Irwin family had very little money and their home had no running water.

“My mother remembered being hungry, having hand-me-down clothes,” Emily said. Not that Gustava would have people feeling sorry for them. “The local church would come with clothes. My grandmother would tell them they didn’t need anything because she could smell the pity from a mile away. There’s a kind of charity that demeans people.”

But at least there were books. Barefoot, Wanda walked miles to the nearest bookmobile. “I stayed in on beautiful sunny days and memorized poetry,” said Wanda, in a documentary about her daughter’s project. “That’s the kind of person I was. I was weird.”

Emily suggests that Wanda’s love of literature was a form of escape. “Reading helps people transcend the limitations of their lives,” Emily explained.

Wanda graduated early from high school. But without money to “escape” to college, the mountains surrounding her hamlet closed in around her. Then, a cousin told her about Berea College, a school founded to serve people in her situation.

Robert and Wanda Auerbach on their honeymoon at Cumberland Falls, Kentucky, in June 1950.



Robert and Wanda before her death in 2012.



Dr. Emily Auerbach posing with a student from the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Odyssey Project.

“There’s a mindset about the poor... They’ve been written off, but I’ve had better discussions about Plato with them than with students elsewhere.”

“Wanda would never have been able to go to any other college,” said Dr. Robert Auerbach, ’49, Wanda’s future husband, who has his own story of escape.

LEGAL DISTINCTIONS IN BERLIN

In 1930s Berlin, Robert Auerbach’s parents, Ella and Richard, were accomplished lawyers. Ella was the first woman to be admitted to Berlin’s Supreme Court, and Richard, also a practicing lawyer, was a World War I recipient of the Iron Cross, a military medal of honor.

With the rise of the Nazi Party, however, there came to be an even more significant distinction – the Auerbachs were Jews.

“Being Jewish had its consequences,” said Robert, in his trademark wry understatement. Over time, many of these consequences would grow in severity. As Germany moved toward war, Jewish families were permitted only one wage earner, and Jewish lawyers could only serve Jewish clients. Eventually, Jewish lawyers were denied licenses altogether and forced to flee Germany.

But because Hitler honored the Iron Cross, Richard was able to continue practicing law after his colleagues had left. The ultimate consequence, however, was the impending threat of the concentration camp. “My father hid, disappeared,” said Robert. “I didn’t know where, but I think my mother knew.”

Ella knew other things, too, like how to exploit the German government’s exacting devotion to bureaucracy. Using legal loopholes, she was able to procure an exit permit for the family to Siam (now known as Thailand).

“They wanted to put us in a concentration camp, but instead gave us permission to leave,” chuckled Robert, noting also that instead of traveling to Siam, the Auerbachs disembarked in London, having obtained a transit visa for refugees.

They settled briefly and peacefully in England, but as the threat of German invasion intensified, the Auerbachs were separated. Robert was evacuated with his schoolmates to a castle in Wales, his sister to another in northern England. Mrs. Auerbach moved away from the coast to

London, and Mr. Auerbach was interned at a camp on the Isle of Man.

“Nobody knew where the others were,” said Robert. “We wrote letters trying to find each other.”

In September 1940, the family received U.S. visas, and made their separate ways to Glasgow, where the HMS Cameronia waited to take them to New York. Robert and his sister reunited at a London train station on the first day of the Blitz.

“The station had a glass roof,” recalled Robert, “and up in the sky were the German bombers.” Because of the German bombing raid they were late, but the ship was still in dock. Their parents met them on board.

“It was not the best time to cross the Atlantic,” said Robert, still understating, and the ship swung toward Iceland to avoid German U-boats. By the time the Statue of Liberty appeared on the horizon, word had gotten around the Cameronia that young Robert was a piano player. “Somebody asked if I could play ‘Harbor Lights,’ and since I didn’t know it they had to sing it to me,” he said.

“He still chokes up about that story,” added Emily.

As the family rebuilt their lives in New York, the Auerbachs learned that Berea College in Kentucky had set aside some open slots for war refugees, something a group of New York Quakers had arranged.

“The only requirement,” said Robert, “was we should not object to church on Sunday, but if we wanted to go to Synagogue, we could.”

MUSIC AND EDUCATION, BUT ABOVE ALL LOVE

“I was very young – I went to Berea before I was 17. I did not have any idea what my future would be like.” Though he played piano and oboe, Robert chose a major in biology over music.

That’s not to say he was no longer musical. “My job the first year was changing bed pans in the hospital, but then I was ringing the chimes at Phelps Stokes Chapel. People didn’t envy me. I had to be there every morning at 6:00 a.m., and then again at noon and 5:00 p.m. It was physical work ringing those bells. I was not envied, but I liked it. I worked out some unorthodox arrangements.”

Robert’s “unorthodox” arrangements were often weather reports in code – “Oh What a Beautiful Morning,” “Rain” and “Let It Snow.”

Though one might assume the point of his attendance at Berea was the quality liberal arts education he was receiving, Robert sees it differently. “The main point,” he says, more than 65 years later, “was to meet my wife.”

After their exodus from Germany, the Auerbachs were improving their situation in New York, but Wanda’s situation was about to get worse.

“She didn’t have money for soap,” said Emily, explaining that Wanda would hunt through shower stalls for soap remnants to combine into a cake she could use. No money for soap, and no money when things got even harder.

“Her father died while she was at Berea,” explained Emily, “but she didn’t have money to go to his funeral. A kind dean gave her the money.”



Wanda Irwin '50 and Robert Auerbach '49 at their wedding in Berea's Danforth Chapel.

“I wish there was a video of my German grandfather trying to talk with Tennessee Appalachians.”

“That was Dean [Julia] Allen,” added Robert, in a separate conversation. “Wanda dropped out for a semester and then was on the half-day plan [so she could work].”

The first-generation college student from Powell Station had very little money, but she had an active mind – eventually she would graduate as the valedictorian of the class of 1950 – and she had Robert, even if the young man’s musical abilities kept him in demand elsewhere.

“It was hard on Wanda because every time there was a dance, I had to play instead of dance.”

The young couple married in Berea’s Danforth Chapel, with W. Gordon Ross, the chair of the philosophy department, presiding over the ceremony in English, German and Hebrew. The wedding cost \$500, all borrowed.

“Everybody came,” said Emily, referring to family, students and faculty. “I wish there was a video of my German grandfather trying to talk with Tennessee Appalachians.”

EMILY AND THE LEGACY OF BEREA

Emily doubts anyone anticipated that her parents’ “spiritual union” would last 62 years – until Wanda passed away in 2012. “I think their story illustrates Berea’s mission – that people can find a common humanity – very well. I’m aware of that every day of my life because of my parents. A lot of what I do is because of Berea. “

A lot of what Emily does is make the tough sell that a more classical education can help lift people out of the cycle of poverty, or that it will help them at all.

“There is a mindset about the poor,” she said. “They’ve been told they’re dumb. They’ve been written off, but I’ve had better discussions about Plato with them than with students elsewhere. Some relate the ‘Allegory of the Cave’ to when they had been incarcerated. Their responses take you to a deep level.”

Her thoughts carry echoes of her mother. “My mother told me all people have a craving to encounter art, and poor people are closer to issues of injustice and suffering, so they respond more viscerally to some of the material.”

The Odyssey Project is bearing fruit. Emily notes that she has students who have moved from homelessness to graduate school.

In the aforementioned documentary, a man addresses a cheering crowd. “I’ve been redeemed,” he says. “I went from [being] a drug addict, alcoholic, drug-dealing and gang-banging thug to a hard-working man of God who visits and preaches to those who are behind bars.” He punctuates his statement with a resounding “hallelujah.”

“It’s fantastic,” said Robert. “Emily’s goal is to convince the University of Wisconsin to ‘have a Berea.’” He continued, “She thinks people should be able to go to school, and she thinks you shouldn’t give up on people who have had a hard time. Education can generate a lifelong change for people.”

For more information about the Odyssey Project and the Auerbach family, please see the video, Forward Motion–The Odyssey Project, that originally aired on the Big 10 Network. It can be accessed here.

"PASSING ON A TRADITION OF 'MAKING'"



By Jacob Appelman, '15

Not every community offers access to a quality arts education. At a time when many public schools across the country are cutting arts programs due to budget constraints, fewer options are available



Tim Glotzbach

for children in underserved areas to learn arts and crafts skills. The Berea College Crafts Outreach Program, now in its fourth year of operation, was formed to provide greater access. Steve Davis-Rosenbaum and Tim Glotzbach, craftsmen and staff of the Berea College Student Crafts program, put together this initiative to spread educational opportunities to areas of need, and to preserve and pass on artistic traditions to a new generation.

When the outreach program began, its focus was on Appalachian communities near Berea, although it sometimes went to other states to provide arts demonstrations and workshops for students in kindergarten through high school. "During the first year the program traveled to Washington, D.C." said Glotzbach, where "they demonstrated at a predominantly African-American inner-city school." Davis-Rosenbaum leads these outreach expeditions, bringing student craft workers who are part of the College's labor program. Trips in Kentucky, where arts education is a necessary part of the Common Core Curriculum, directly support educational goals by providing students hands-on experience. One teacher who participated in the program wrote, "Being able to make real connections to ideas taught in the classroom and being included in the production process gave a real sense of pride in the students."

In addition to the outreach efforts, there are also several programs,

“We’re passing on a tradition of ‘making’ that’s been a



Amy Morgan, '15, demonstrates the technique for making coil pots.



Payton Gabbard shows her father, (Scott), little sister (Delaney) and mother (Angela) how to use a pottery wheel.

demonstrations and workshops available on the Berea College campus. For the past few years, Student Crafts has partnered with the Berea Arts Council to provide a two-week Summer Art Camp to K-12 students in the community and surrounding areas who can make it to campus. The camp sessions are also taught by student workers, and the offerings include jewelry-making, woodworking, broomcraft, pottery throwing and weaving. “We’re passing on a tradition of ‘making’ that’s been a part of this region for as long as people have been here,” explained student worker Amy Morgan, '15. Glotzbach added, “I had a grandparent come up to me the other day, and she said ‘Thank you; my grandson is here and he can’t stop talking about this. He loves coming here, he loves it!’ That was nice to hear from a grandmother.” The collaboration with the Berea Arts Council has expanded from initial one-day demonstrations to the two-week camp. Katie Morgan, a sixth-grade student at Berea Community School, said, “I learned how to make coil pots and jewelry; I like how it’s really fun and you get to know people better.” Justin Dean Burton, the student manager at Broomcraft, said that he would have loved to have had an opportunity to learn these traditional crafts in high school.

In addition to the Art Camp, Student Crafts also works with Berea Tourism’s Festival of Learnshops, an opportunity for “teachers to gain summer credits to fulfill

part of this region for as long as people have been here.”



Austin Weiner and Isaac Deaver make animal figures out of clay for use on a totem pole.



Payton Gabbard and Katie Morgan practice weaving on an inkle loom.



Lora Truitt shows off her completed project, a broom.

their requirements by teaching the teachers about art,” Davis-Rosenbaum explained. The Craft program also reaches thousands of people yearly by attending various arts and crafts fairs and Berea tourism events. The program currently employs 32 student workers. Student Crafts has a new demonstration area housed in the Berea College Visitor Center & Shoppe on Main Street. Student Crafts also participates in the Brushy Fork Institute, Berea Buddies, Adopt a Grandparent and other CELTS service programs. Davis-Rosenbaum explained that, “We not only teach and run these workshops and demonstrate the crafts, we are also providing opportunities for other organizations to engage in the arts using our expertise, our facilities and our ability to provide programming at no cost.”

In the near future, Davis-Rosenbaum and Glotzbach hope to expand the scope of the crafts outreach, possibly offering impromptu classes to tourists and people who come to visit campus. In addition to these potential classes for visitors, they want to expand the outreach to include communities that are further away. This would involve telecommunications equipment to provide instruction through an Internet conference. Short videos are also being made about the crafts processes at Berea College. In addition, the Student Crafts program has ambitions to increase the availability of instruction to faculty, staff, students and community members.



Steve Davis-Rosenbaum explains part of the process of making copper jewelry to Isaac Dever.

SISTERHOOD

WILL ALWAYS BE POWERFUL



By bell hooks
Distinguished Professor in Residence
in Appalachian Studies

More than 10 years ago when I told my New York-based friend and feminist comrade Gloria Steinem that I would be leaving the city to move to a small town in Kentucky, she emphatically asked (in the voice of “You must be out of your mind!”), “Who will be your friends?” Although it was not her intent, these words conjured stereotypical images of Kentucky – tin can trailer parks, poor white trash rednecks, broken down pickup trucks, dirty, uneducated folks – black and white – and even more profoundly the absence of any progressive face. It is just these negative images of Kentucky that I had left behind. At no point when I made the transition from world-class big city living to quaint small town Kentucky did I ponder the issue of friendship. Having moved many places, I have learned from life that interesting, fascinating, caring folk are everywhere – that it’s possible to make a friend anywhere.

After all, Gloria and I had found each other, meeting at a photo shoot for the 1993 “No, Feminists Don’t All Think Alike” cover of *Ms. Magazine*. I arrived at the shoot, straight from a small town in Maine where I had been speaking and had fallen down a hill and broken bones in my hand. Coming from fishing, the surgeon at the small, local hospital put the bones back together. I carried away on my arm an elegant purple cast. My arm had to rest on a tall stool, hidden out of sight throughout the photo shoot, which included the up and coming young feminist writer Naomi Wolf, lesbian activist Urvashi Vaid, and the senior woman in our group, Gloria Steinem. She told funny stories, working really hard to make us feel comfortable. As we prepared to leave one another, Gloria fretted that I would have difficulty dressing myself with one arm unless I had the right clothes. A fashion queen, then and always, she was convinced she knew just what I could wear – requesting that I jot down my address so she could make sure I had just the clothes I needed.

I traveled home pleased with the shoot, pleased with the women I had met. Still I was surprised when Gloria’s package arrived. I had simply assumed she would forget all about her promise to me. Like the elephants she loves so much, I came to understand that Gloria does not forget. That at her core, she is a woman of her word, a woman of integrity. And so our friendship began.

In those days, we were much more like-minded when it came to the issue of fashion than we were about feminism. I saw Gloria Steinem as an old-style reformist feminist, concerned with women gaining equality with men. Almost 20 years younger, I saw myself as a member of an emerging feminist force that was not as concerned with issues of equality. We wanted to challenge and change patriarchy. We were fierce and militant. However, our differences did not stand in the way of sisterly bonding.

Unlike many white women who never talked about race, or talked but failed to understand race and racism, Gloria had protested alongside powerful black women activists – Florynce Kennedy and Margaret Sloan – to name a few. When the issue was the intersections of race, class and gender, Gloria had been well-tutored and she had learned.

From the very first moment I met Gloria and on through years of friendship, she has always worked to embody anti-racist ethics, a spirit of justice that knows no hierarchy. As our solidarity has deepened, so has my profound respect for the example she sets.

Coming home to Kentucky heightened my awareness that in the world beyond most people thought feminism and Kentucky womanhood did and do not fit. And yet, I know my feminist independence was honed here, in this state. Making my home here, I began to dream of creating a center that would call attention to the influence of Kentucky on my intellectual and political life, on my work as a feminist. And so the foundations of the bell hooks Institute were laid.

The core vision was rooted in education as the practice of freedom – teaching and learning both in and out of academic

settings. A child raised in the Kentucky hills, I came to Berea with a keen understanding of the need for greater literacy in our state. When Gloria Steinem first came to Berea four years ago, a diverse group of women gathered in these Kentucky hills. Women came long distances, from hills and hollows. Our years were teens to 80, and together we shared the powerful influence Steinem and her work had had on our beings – lives changed, lives transformed. The emphasis she placed on self-actualization in her book, *Revolution from Within*, was especially inspiring to mountain women, as many of these folks had never sat in a college classroom. Later that same day, Gloria and I gave our first of what would become many public conversations. Our campus, our community came out – a packed audience – eager to hear a fabulous feminist discussion.

After Steinem’s visit, it was clear that the center needed to have a base in town, where more students could attend events, where more folks without transportation could come. When the huge brick house on Center Street was for sale, I saw clearly that it was the perfect location for the bell hooks Institute – one that would provide a place where learning conversations could happen with academic folks, the local community and scholars and thinkers from inside and outside Kentucky. In this inaugural year of the bell hooks Institute, it seemed more than appropriate for Gloria Steinem to return and grace the new building with her presence. Traveling here (during the already packed book tour for her new work, *My Life on the Road*), Gloria encountered friends and comrades and met many new faces. After a public conversation in which we both reiterated that efforts to challenge and change patriarchy are as needed today as in the past, Gloria spent an evening in personal conversation with Berea scholars and community folk. Her presence here, the work she did was the perfect embodiment of Berea’s dream for the bell hooks Institute. She has attained the tender age of 81, but we anticipate years from now that Gloria will return to our beloved community as bell and the bell hooks Institute are here to stay.



PERSPECTIVES

ON THE GREAT COMMITMENTS: BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

For a little more than a year, we have presented “Perspectives,” a series in which Bereans reflected on and provided their views about two of the Great Commitments and how they are connected. This issue brings the series to a close by examining our Commitments to “democratic community” and “plain living.” These topics are particularly relevant in light of events on other campuses and national conversations about energy needs and our obligations as stewards of the planet’s natural resources. As always, we hope you enjoy reading these perspectives and that you will consider joining the conversation by commenting in the online edition of the magazine, available at www.berea.edu/magazine.

Photographs by Chris Radcliffe





Dr. Beth Crachiolo

Associate Professor of English

What does the phrase “democratic community” mean to you?

I think of it as self-governing. Not necessarily everybody being a governor, but that the community has representatives and the community chooses them. I think of it as the campus governing itself. Faculty and staff vote on lots of things. We have faculty meetings once a month, and day-to-day work is done by committees that are made up of faculty, many of them are elected, and that’s a good way to get representation. The committees are gender-balanced deliberately to do an end-run around the kind of prejudice that has traditionally affected women.

How does Berea live out this Commitment today?

The commitment lives through all the committees, self-governance mechanisms, and the faculty meetings where you can speak on the faculty floor. I like it that student government has representation in faculty meetings. Are most doors open to students? Can they go see the dean or the associate dean or whomever? Can they go make an appointment and see that person? They can, and I like that because students should have access to everybody on campus, all the way up to the president. Nobody is going to abuse that or waste anybody’s time because students at Berea just don’t do that. So I think there are a lot of places where Bereans can say, “Ok, this is what we want.” And we get it.

How do you interpret the Commitment to encourage “plain living”?

I’m a child of the ‘80s and all its excesses. And I hate excess, so I think of plain living as living within what is necessary for you. That includes what is comfortable for you, even what is a treat for you, even what is fancy for you, but not at the cost of say, being in debt beyond your mortgage. Not at the cost of being able to give to whatever charities you give to. I think life is about other people. And that it’s more about serving people than it is about who has the most toys.

How about I call it conscious living? You think about the impact that your actions have on other people, animals and so on. I used to think plain living meant that you eschewed all luxuries, but then I had to think more deeply about it. For example, my husband gets hideously sick from allergies in the summer if we don’t have air conditioning. Condemning that on the basis that it wouldn’t follow someone else’s definition of plain living backfires because without it he would be sick and miserable and not get anything done. For us, having this “luxury” is actually a part of the way we live consciously. So I just like to think about the impact of things that I do and act accordingly. I think most people at Berea do the same.

How do you see this encouragement day-to-day?

There’s a social encouragement toward plain living, at least what I think of as plain living. And it’s not like peer pressure, it’s not like people say, “Oh you won’t be popular if you don’t recycle.” It’s not that sort of thing, but it’s just made easy. For instance, what if you don’t know where you can take this or that thing, like batteries, to be recycled? I can walk down the hall from my office and ask somebody and they’ll know. Actually, there’s a collection box on the third floor of Draper now. It’s a social thing and everybody does it, and that helps in the community.

Berea’s Great Commitments are all interrelated. Describe how you see the Commitment to encourage “plain living” as connected to the Commitment to live in a “democratic community.” Do these Commitments complement each other?

For me, plain living is about the way we are intrinsically connected to other people. What is the impact if I buy a “gas guzzler” car? If I throw away clothes rather than donate them? What is the impact of this behavior and that behavior? It connects back to the democratic community because the people who directly suffer or benefit from the way I choose to live are my neighbors, my friends – the people who govern the college. Both of these Commitments are about other people, and I like that. They’re both about service to other people.





Joan Pauly

Sustainability Coordinator

What does the phrase “democratic community” mean to you?

To me, a democratic community means that all voices are heard and valued before decisions are made.

How do you interpret the Commitment to encourage “plain living”?

The definition of “plain living” to one person is different than the definition of “plain living” to another. It’s usually discussed in the context of sustainable living, but that isn’t my definition. I can’t say that I live plainly, because, for me, plain living means getting back to the land, growing your own food and being more connected to the hand-craftsmanship of life. I don’t live that way. But I do live mindfully in how I make my decisions. I choose to live in places where I can walk rather than having to use my car for everything – that was a mindful decision I made when I moved back to Kentucky. I try to buy local whenever I can because I understand the impact of this choice, whether I’m buying foods or goods or materials. The carbon impact, as well as the social equity impact on workers who are creating goods are important considerations if I make a purchase. So to me, there is a difference between living plainly and simply, and living mindfully. In my role as sustainability coordinator, I feel a high degree of confidence that I can help bring awareness here at Berea College to making mindful, sustainable choices, but I can’t say that I can teach how to live plainly.

How do you see “plain living” or mindful living encouraged day-to-day?

We’re very fortunate here at Berea College that there is a history and culture of being good stewards of our resources; Dining Services is a good example. Great attention is given to supporting our local farmers, including our own farm and

gardens. With new construction projects, we strive to hit Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Silver, which ensures a reduction in energy and water use, helps support our local economy and gives attention to occupant comfort and well-being. We also focus on being good stewards of any waste we create with composting and recycling efforts rather than trucking everything to the landfill. I see all of these connections as something we experience everyday – from what we eat, to where we learn and live, to how we handle our own consumption and waste responsibly.

Berea’s Great Commitments are all interrelated. Describe how you see the commitment to encourage “plain living” as connected to the Commitment to live in a “democratic community.” Do these Commitments complement each other?

We are free to choose how, how much, and what we consume here in this abundant democratic society. Being an informed person about how our choices impact other people and the planet is a fundamental responsibility we all share.

The “plain living” Commitment has sometimes been called the “kitchen sink” Commitment because it has so many components. Are there aspects, other than plain living, that resonate with you?

Yes, to remain a residential campus resonates with me because it helps to foster the type of culture and community we have here. I believe our support to live, learn and work together in residence provides a much richer cultural experience and opportunity for life-long friendships to develop. I think Berea would be a dramatically different place if the college was a commuter school all four years of a student’s time here, and I do not think this would be for the better.



Andy Beichler, '91

Project Director of the Partnership for Opportunity Youth

What does the phrase “democratic community” mean to you?

I think that a democratic community is a community that is intentional in its efforts to hear and respect as many voices as possible. I think it gives us the direction to always seek input, and, ultimately that decisions made on that input need to be revisited on a regular basis. Being a democratic community means we're seeking that identity or that understanding from all, that the voices of all members of the community are vital, whether they be staff, faculty or students. You're never going to get everyone fully involved, but there has to be a continuing effort to get folks involved, and I see the college doing that. I've seen it now with three different presidential administrations. They each might look slightly different, but I really see a consistent, long-term effort by this community.

How do you interpret the Commitment to encourage “plain living”?

What is “plain living”? It's really hard to define. But you can talk about sustainability in very measurable terms of efficiency; you can talk about it in terms of technology. It's not necessarily plain living, but it can drive us to a point where we're using fewer resources to get the same outcome. In my personal life, I like to think that plain living means being very mindful of consumption and very thoughtful about the things I choose to consume. It's a constant challenge. Similar to the ideal of democratic community, you need to be thoughtful about what you're doing. You look at Deep Green and don't necessarily think plain living, but you certainly think sustainable. There are truly beautiful amenities in Deep Green, an aesthetic that you don't necessarily associate with simplicity. When I think of a dorm in relation to plain living, I think of Bingham. But Deep Green is probably much more efficient than Bingham, and it probably costs less to operate, even though it's beautiful. Ultimately, the outcomes of sustainability are centered around efficiency, whereas “plain living” encourages

us to have more of a focus on the internal things that are important rather than the external material things.

Berea's Great Commitments are all interrelated. Describe how you see the Commitment to encourage “plain living” as connected to the Commitment to live in a “democratic community.” Do these Commitments complement each other?

Frankly, I think that they're only as connected as we are willing to make them connected. First of all, we have to be committed to those two as separate concepts. Being in a democratic community fits well with plain living because you're always considering the needs of the community. When you're talking about plain living and trying to figure out what that means, living in a democratic community means that everyone is bringing something to the table. Some of us bring lots of lived experience, some bring cold, hard research-related data, and some bring an intense personal emotional response to it, and we need to listen to all of those. I think that they absolutely complement each other in that one describes a process and the other describes the end goal of what we're trying to get to. If we use the democratic ideals to get to plain living then at least we're going to head in the right direction. It may not be perfect; there will probably be people who are unhappy with it, but that's okay. We've embraced this ideal and this is how we're living it out.

The “plain living” Commitment has sometimes been called the “kitchen sink” Commitment because it has so many components. Are there aspects, other than “plain living” that resonate with you? Why?

The one that really resonates with me is maintaining a residential campus. I consistently draw from my experience of having lived on campus. It's not just about that dorm experience. It was in many ways a complete community. I think that it's a vital part of the Berea College experience.







Marie Gibaldi, '10

Residential Life Collegium

What does the phrase “democratic community” mean to you?

It means social and political equality for all. That’s really what I think it is, a community where everybody gets a chance to flourish, where they all have the same opportunities for growth. Whether or not people take advantage of these opportunities, and how they take these opportunities, puts people in different places, but everyone starts on the same playing field with the same opportunities to grow and develop.

How do you see “plain living” encouraged day-to-day?

We put money into renovating residence halls on campus, and when you look at the numbers, it’s like “Oh my gosh! That’s a lot of money that goes into that.” But then you go in the halls, and they’re Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED)-certified. They put all that money into building a simpler hall and using land and resources that we have here. So it’s that simplicity of function and structure that I think we’re modeling.

Also, this particular Commitment is about more than plain living; it includes ideas like, “pride in labor well done.” It is about how labor supervisors provide leadership development and how that’s linked to having high personal standards. And then we have the recycling and composting bins, and the movement toward using local foods, and professors who push you to think outside the box. I graduated in 2010, so having been a student at Berea and now being on the staff side of it, I can appreciate the importance of these connections. I appreciated it then, but now I understand how day-to-day encouragement comes from connecting thinking and doing on campus.

The “plain living” Commitment has sometimes been called the “kitchen sink” Commitment because it has so many components. Are there aspects, other than “plain living” that resonate with you? Why?

I like all of them. I couldn’t pull just one and say, “If I had to pick one it would be this.” Take for instance, the idea of pride in labor well done...I feel a person should have pride in what they do, and even more pride that they’ve done it well. And then there’s zest for learning. I believe that the moment a person feels like they have learned everything, they are no longer of value to the community. The world is constantly changing, so there are constantly things to learn. You have to look back and learn from the past, so that you can appreciate where you are today and understand how to move forward. We should have high standards for ourselves to be better, but not just in the context of career goals. For me, a personal high standard is how I live and interact with people every day. The question I try to ask myself is “what will I have accomplished that I find valuable?” I think that a valuable community member has to care about the welfare of others. A person can show this by donating money to charities or countries that don’t have enough. Or, you can be the person who’s feeding people at soup kitchens or the cashier who goes to work happy every day because you enjoy checking people out and providing that smile. People who do well at their jobs, especially in the service industry, have to care for others because what they do affects someone else.





Gus Gerassimides, '83

Assistant Vice President for Student Life

How does Berea live out its Commitment to “democratic community”?

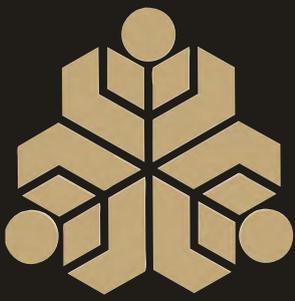
We do it in the classroom, and we do it outside of the classroom in a co-curricular fashion. I'll give you an example from outside of the classroom. We welcome the dialogue and the debate even if it's messy. There was one year when students were putting Confederate flags outside of their residence halls, so there were about 15-20 Confederate flags. People were calling our office and saying “Go tell those people to take those down,” and I said, “No, you go tell them; you're part of the community, you go tell them.” They said “Well, no, it's your job” but I responded, “It's not my job.” That type of expression is allowed to happen because it's members of the community who are feeling it.

I've seen the climate of the institution shift between conservative, liberal and moderate, but when push comes to shove, everybody's at the table even when they're not getting what they want. I have always been amazed at how we do that at this institution, regardless of who the members of the community are. No matter who the players are on the field, we model that for people. No matter which paradigm is influencing policies, procedures and practices, I've never felt I'm away from the table. I've always felt welcome to say what I feel and no one ever says, “You cannot say that,” or “Because you say that we are going cast you out.” I find that truly unique, and I can say that from experience. When people say that they are thinking of coming to Berea, I always tell them, “Well, I have been here 30 years, and you will always be at the table. You might be angry, but you will be at the table. People aren't going to tell you to shut up and go away.” I think the way we pick our leadership, the way we play it out, is truly unique.

Berea's Great Commitments are all interrelated. Describe how you see the Commitment to encourage “plain living” as connected to the Commitment to live in a “democratic community.” Do these Commitments complement each other?

Living in a democratic community allows you to have a better understanding of this Commitment and other Commitments. I'll start with the Ecovillage. We need people to live in the Ecovillage. It teaches environmental living; you have your childcare right next door. The fact that you have your childcare next to the living center is sustainable in the sense that you just walk your kid from point A to point B. What that does is it saves you time, it saves you energy and it helps build more community. What you're doing is role modeling for the broader world; in effect telling people, “Maybe you guys should try doing that. Employers, you should start trying to do that.”

So, within the concept of living in a democratic community, when we're renovating a place like the Ecovillage, or any other place, we bring all the partners together around the room with the architects, the engineers, the program folks and you ask everyone questions – “Well what do you think will work?” and people start saying, “Well I think this will work. I think that will work.” And everyone's taking their notes, “Oh, bad idea. That's a good idea.” Through input, critical thinking and discussion you start to draw conclusions about how to build infrastructures for plain, sustainable living. Anytime you have dialogue through governing structures, through program development and just regular one-on-one talk, people start to make paradigm shifts. In classrooms, in the co-curriculum, when groups are writing constitutions for clubs and organizations, in policy development or renovation development. In all these places, the spirit of democratic community and critical thinking helps inform day-to-day life, policy development and program development. The beauty of this is that you can serve people in the context of the mission more effectively, not only in terms of how to be sustainable and how to be simple in terms of your life, but also in the broader issues of all the commitments.



Nick Mullins, '16

Former Underground Coal Miner and Environmental Advocate

How do you interpret the Commitment to “plain living”?

I think it's important to first define plain living. To me, plain living means living a lifestyle that is not materialistic or resource-intensive. Although the United States constitutes only about 4.4 percent of the world population, we consume 25 percent of the energy and materials used worldwide each year. This consumption then translates into resource extraction practices that are devastating to both the environment and local communities, as well as the introduction of environmental contaminants worldwide. Study upon study has been completed linking our desire to live well beyond our means to many of the terrible injustices occurring throughout the world.

That being said, I interpret Berea's Commitment to plain living as a commitment to provide our students with the knowledge and skills they need to live well while consuming far less than the average U.S. citizen.

How do you see this encouragement day-to-day?

I do not see “plain living” being encouraged at Berea College, at least not in general. Students need to know why “plain living” is important as well how to live plainly. The Sustainability and Environmental Studies (SENS) program provides the most focus in these areas, and yet it has a very low student enrollment.

“Plain living” is also not being addressed in students' daily lives. The buffet style arrangement of food services encourages the idea of an endless food supply – one without consequence for wastefulness. Recycling is being emphasized more so than waste reduction, freshman dorms were just outfitted with micro-fridges and the college is still purchasing throw-away items for use at public events. These, and other campus norms, contribute to the message that nothing needs to change in the way we are living and consuming.

Admittedly, I have formed very strong beliefs regarding this subject. Having grown up in a community devastated by coal mining – having been forced to move our children from their ancestral home due to potential health concerns – I understand the impacts of supply and demand more than most. I know that because of our nation's desire for comfort, convenience and materialism, that tremendous harm is being done to people living where resources are being extracted. I know too that where resources are processed and turned into goods, harmful, and sometimes deadly toxins are released into the water people must drink and the air they must breathe. I fear we do too little to address these issues as an institution that is “investing in lives of great promise.”

How do you think Berea College could further incorporate “plain living” into the daily lives of the students here?

I firmly believe that an introductory SENS course should become a general requirement for all students attending Berea College. I also believe the college needs to continue expanding the agriculture program in sustainable food production and in student involvement as part of the Berea Experience. Changes such as these also have the potential for increasing the college's financial resilience. Students well-educated in terms of resource consumption will develop less wasteful habits; students who understand where their food comes from will eat healthier.

The college must also take a hard look at its own resource use and adopt uncompromising reduction practices. Simply building and remodeling structures to be more efficient is not enough. Achieving waste diversion accolades through recycling is not enough. Such tools are only effective when placed in the capable hands of people motivated to use them – people who understand the consequences of their over-consumption and take steps to address it.



Mountaintop Removal Mining

"To know about strip mining or mountaintop removal is like knowing about the nuclear bomb. It is to know beyond doubt that some human beings have, and are willing to use, the power of absolute destruction. This work is done in violation of all the best things that humans have learned in their long dwelling on the earth: reverence, neighborliness, stewardship, death love."
—Wendell Berry (2007)

Energy & Appalachia

Appalachia has a "special" reputation for fossil fuel energy usage. It is rich in oil, natural gas, and coal reserves, and it is also a major source of electricity and other energy. The region's energy resources are a double-edged sword. On the one hand, they have provided a source of economic growth and jobs. On the other hand, they have also led to environmental degradation and the loss of natural resources.

While the energy industry has a long history in the Appalachia region, it has also been a source of environmental degradation. The region's coal mines have been a major source of air and water pollution. The region's oil and natural gas reserves have also been a source of environmental degradation. The region's energy resources are a double-edged sword.

Underground Coal

"I love coal mining. It's just a good way to make a living. These mines, they're [but] they're [all] very dangerous. You got to respect coal. And you got to respect coal."
—[Name]

If the land is so rich, why are so many so poor?







Quentin Savage, '16

Winner of the Mario Savio Award for Young Activists*

What does the phrase “democratic community” mean to you?

I think a democratic community has to go beyond inclusivity; it means consistent and intentional efforts that allow the most impacted folks to lead alongside their peers.

How do you think Berea lives out this commitment today?

I think Berea enables this commitment more than it actually lives up to the commitment. Berea does this by investing in the voices and stories that aren't told. I consider this a community of survivors, and I feel like everyone here lives and learns with a purpose – that being to improve the situations that they left behind.

How do you see the encouragement of “plain living” day-to-day?

I think Berea is really radical in this way because we actually have a marketing team that makes sure the idea of “plain living” is present in all of the students' minds. There are stickers above all the water fountains telling us to use the tap, because it's sustainable. In the dining hall, we have a compost bin that's right there; we have reusable dishes, and we make sure that napkins we use are compostable and recyclable. Berea has an entire dorm that's based on sustainability and the importance of sustainability. In addition, we have faculty members and staff members who intentionally incorporate the idea of plain living into their curriculum and that's really rare and something that I think we take for granted.

Did you see a lot of “plain living” and some of the other things you have mentioned about Berea in your own city or in the surrounding areas?

No, where I grew up it was so commercial and the wage gap was incredibly wide, so there were folks who could afford to have these really nice, safe spaces where they could afford not to worry about air quality. Then you had the folks who couldn't

afford those spaces, who were forced to live in the smog and forced to eat food that was not good for them. I think when we are talking about “plain living,” we are talking about reducing the things that we need. But, when you live in an environment that asks so much of you, that demands you go beyond your needs to get a paycheck ... you won't find “plain living” there, and so I didn't.

When I first came to Berea, I didn't understand “plain living” because where I grew up, plain living wasn't even a concept. I didn't consider sustainability or my impact on the environment. And then I got here, and at first it seemed like folks were just trying to make me feel guilty about the way that I grew up, that they weren't really trying to understand my history and the background or the reasons why I had to make those choices. But the more I engaged with folks who had been in sustainability for years, the more I understood that it was a process of liberation. After that, I could appreciate Berea a whole lot more.

Berea's Great Commitments are all interrelated. Describe how you see the Commitment to encourage “plain living” as connected to the commitment to live in a “democratic community.”

Thinking about growing up in Moreno Valley in California and the huge wage gap I saw, I don't think you can have a “democratic community” when there is a huge wage gap like that. “Plain living” builds a foundation, a level playing field that folks all start from and have access to. And I think that you won't find a “democratic community” in a place that doesn't practice, or at least emphasize, “plain living.”

* A national award presented each year to a young person (or persons) with a deep commitment to human rights and social justice and a proven ability to transform this commitment into effective action.

Celeste Armstrong Named Berea College Trustee

Celeste Patton Armstrong was elected to the Berea College Board of Trustees at the Board's recent meeting. Armstrong is an alumna of Berea College.

"I am truly humbled by the appointment, as it is an opportunity for me to continue to serve and give back to the very institution that gave so much to me," Armstrong said. "My experience at Berea College was transformative and I expect the same with my continued involvement."

Currently, Armstrong is the managing attorney in the Birmingham, Alabama office of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company's Trial Division. Prior to joining Nationwide three years ago, she was administrative lead counsel at Allstate Insurance Company, where she was employed for 13 years. Armstrong worked out of the Birmingham office for the Southern Region – Georgia, Alabama and Tennessee – and maintained a case load, but was primarily responsible for compliance, quality assurance, training and administrative duties. Her practice has always been focused in insurance defense. She had a private legal practice before joining Allstate.

Armstrong earned a B.A. degree from Berea College and a Juris Doctorate from Samford University's Cumberland Law School in Birmingham. She was admitted to the Alabama State Bar in 1995. Other distinctions include being named a CLEO (Council on Legal Education Opportunity) Fellow by the



University of Mississippi, obtaining her certification as faculty for the National Institute of Trial Advocacy and currently serving as faculty for Nationwide. She speaks about legal education for many organizations including the National Business Institute and Cumberland Law School.

Armstrong has been an active volunteer for her alma mater. She served on Berea's Alumni Executive Council for seven years and is a past president. She also serves as the organizer for Birmingham alumnae. Her civic service includes working with Grace House Ministries as a mentor and speaker as well as table captain of its annual "Hats Off" Luncheon. Armstrong and her husband, Kenneth, are actively involved with both the greeter ministry and a youth ministry at their church. She works with a church ministry, Recycled Blessings, and serves as a volunteer with the annual MS (multiple sclerosis) Walk. Armstrong has two sons, Kevin and Keeton.

Library of Congress Places Lomax Kentucky Recordings at Berea College

Berea College Special Collections & Archives, the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress, the Association for Cultural Equity and the University of Kentucky Libraries Special Collections Research Center are proud to announce digital access to The Lomax Kentucky Recordings. This is an online exhibition of over 70 hours of Eastern Kentucky folk music and lore, collected under the auspices of the Library of Congress between 1933 and 1942.

Four years in the making, this unique collaborative resource makes available for the first time the extensive Kentucky collections compiled by folklorists John A. Lomax, his son Alan Lomax and Alan's wife Elizabeth Lyttleton Harold, as well as those of Columbia University's Mary Elizabeth Barnicle.

Featuring full, free streaming audio of every performance, interview and narrative segment – some 1300 discrete pieces – along with searchable recording details (performer name, location, date, instrument, etc.), The Lomax Kentucky Recordings presents a breathtakingly diverse spectrum of Appalachian traditional culture and a point of entry into the lives of the farmers, laborers, coal miners, preachers, housewives, public officials, soldiers, children, grandparents and itinerant musicians who nurtured and were nurtured by it.

There are ballads and lyric songs, play-party ditties and comic pieces, topical and protest material, fiddle and banjo tunes, hymns and



Alan Lomax

sacred songs, children's games and lullabies, and a variety of spoken lore – religious testimonies, occupational reminiscences, tall tales, jokes and personal narratives.

Particularly notable is the first version of "The House of the Rising Sun" sung by 16-year-old Georgia Turner of Middlesboro, Kentucky, and W.H. Stepp's sublime rendition of "Bonaparte's Retreat," adapted by Aaron Copland for his ballet Rodeo and later reconfigured and broadcast to the nation in the "Beef, It's What's For Dinner" ad campaign.

There are ballads of ancient derivation and more recent ones concerning local disasters. Alan Lomax felt that a chief result of his and his father's efforts for the Library of Congress was that "for the first time America could hear itself." Thus their intentions were not merely archival. In fact, Alan cautioned against the strictly preservational impulse, remarking that "folksongs should not be buried in libraries as they are in Washington and in universities over the country." This online effort, launched in 2015 – the centennial of Alan's birth – seeks to realize his vision by providing free and complete access to these historic collections.

The collection can be accessed at <http://lomaxky.omeka.net/>

Cross Country Brings Home Dual National Championships

The Berea College women's and men's cross country teams both celebrated winning national titles at the United States Collegiate Athletic Association (USCAA) 2015 National Championship hosted by Florida College in Lakeland, Florida.

Mercy Kershner, '16, and Sydney Kyker, '17, were named to the USCAA 2015 Women's Cross Country National All-Academic Team. In addition, Nathan Smith, '17, was named to the USCAA

2015 Men's Cross Country National All-Academic Team.

Capping an exceptional year, Mike Johnson, coach of Berea's men's team, was named USCAA Men's Cross Country Coach of the Year. In its announcement, the USCAA stated "Coach Johnson has seen his team make tremendous growth in 2015. As just one example, his team's average 8K time has improved from 26:42 to 25:57 this season even after a top five finish in last



year's USCAA National Championship. His school describes this year's team as one of the best in its history, and his

coaching performance as one of his best, which is saying something considering this is his 35th straight season at Berea."

HOMECOMING 2016

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL 2015-16

OFFICERS

Andrew Hamilton, '96, President, Texas
 Patricia Campbell Estep, '77, President-Elect,
 Virginia
 David Cook, '85, Past President, Kentucky
 Lyle D. Roelofs, President of Berea College,
 Kentucky
 Bernadine Douglas, Vice President for Alumni and
 College Relations, Kentucky
 Jackie Collier, '80, Associate Vice President
 for Alumni Relations, Kentucky

ALUMNI TRUSTEES

Celeste Patton Armstrong, '90, Alabama
 Charles D. Crowe, '70, Tennessee
 Jerry Hale, '73, Tennessee
 Robert F. Hawks, '77, Georgia

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Beverly Clay Crabtree, '81, Ohio
 Eric Crowden, '84, Kentucky
 Betty Jean Hall, '68, North Carolina
 Adam Hardin, '97, Ohio
 Amy Burkhardt Harmon, '99, California
 David Harrison, '00, Kentucky
 Katherine Silver Kelly, '91, Ohio
 Jack Marinelli, '85, Illinois
 Tedd Masiongale, '88, Georgia
 Dr. Betty Hyatt Olinger, '69, Kentucky
 Jennifer Hale Stafford, '92, Kentucky
 Deborah Byrd Thomas, '80, Alabama
 Peter S. Thoms, M.D., '55, Michigan
 Diane Artist Wallace, '80, Kentucky
 Tamika Weaver, '97, Georgia
 Ballard Wright, M.D., '59, Kentucky

YOUNG ALUMNI ADVISORY COUNCIL 2015-16

OFFICERS

Luke Sulfridge, '03, President, Ohio
 Susan Jones, '02, Executive Vice President, North
 Carolina
 Missy Naseman Rivera, '05, President-Elect, Ohio
 Hussene Youssouf, '05, Past President, Georgia

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Rashaad Abdur-Rahman, '03, Kentucky
 Ehis Akhetuamhen, '11, New York
 Beth Bissmeyer, '09, Kentucky
 Jacob Burdette, '15, Kentucky
 William E. Cook III, '06, Ohio
 Martina Jackson-Haynes, '11, South Carolina
 Justin Kindler, '05, Florida
 David Kretzmann, '14, Virginia
 Ashley Miller, '05, Kentucky
 Jamie Nunnery, '13, Kentucky
 Cory Payton, '15, Kentucky
 Joe Saleem II, '08, Kentucky
 Brittany Suits, '14, Georgia
 Katy Jones Sulfridge, '03, Ohio
 Djuan Trent, '10, Kentucky



Ray Davis, '11
 Anna Skaggs, '17

Alumni enjoy good food and good company at the annual Agriculture and Natural Resources Breakfast.



The Berea Middle Eastern Dancers pose at their BereaFEST booth.



Sarah-Anne Soares, '18

Alumni and students connect at the African Diaspora Networking and Career Panel.



Ray Davis, '11

The women's basketball team beat Indiana Southeast in a spectacular game.



Jett Yates, '16

Berea men's team plays Spalding University.



Caleb Coffey, '17

A performance at the Black Student Union Pageant.



Ray Davis, '11

The 2015 Homecoming Court.

HOMECOMING



Jet Yates, '16

Former members of the Berea College Mountaineers and President Roelofs pose for a group photo after the Alumni basketball game.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Students enjoy "Great Conversations" with Kristin Clark, '92'.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Cara Stewart, '03, receives her Outstanding Young Alumnus award from President Roelofs.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Mae Suramek, '95, receives her Outstanding Young Alumnus award from President Roelofs.



Crystal Wylie, '05

The African Student Association performs during the festivities at BereaFEST.



Crystal Wylie, '05

International alumni gather and watch performances during a reception sponsored by the Center for International Education.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Students and alumni enjoying the performances at the Block Party.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Dr. Randy Johnson, '91, speaks on marriage equality in the United States.



Sarah-Anne Soares, '18

Sandy Williams receives the 2015 Mountaineer Honor of Distinction at the Mountaineer Players and Supporters Awards Brunch.



Sarah-Anne Soares, '18

Mikah Turner, '11, receives the 2015 Mountaineer Honor of Distinction at the Mountaineer Players and Supporters Awards Brunch.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Jessie Zander, '54, gives a moving speech during the dedication of Knapp Hall.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Nursing alumni talk to Berea College student nurses during their program brunch.



Crystal Wylie, '05

The Black Music Ensemble feel the spirit during their annual Homecoming concert.



Anna Skaggs, '17

Alumni enjoy the good food and one another's company at the Technology and Applied Design annual Homecoming breakfast.



Crystal Wylie, '05

Alumni mingle at the Communication Program Alumni Brunch.

CLASS PHOTOS



Event photos and class photos with names can be found at alumni.berea.edu/homecoming.

AWARD RECIPIENTS

MAE SURAMEK, '95 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

After graduating from Berea College in 1995, Mae served in the AmeriCorps program in Harold, Kentucky, at a domestic violence shelter in Lexington, Kentucky, and at a refugee resettlement center in Raleigh, North Carolina. She also spent eight years working in the field of human rights enforcement and advocacy for city and state governments in Kentucky and North Carolina. In 2004, she returned to her alma mater, where she served as Berea's alumni director for nine years. Upon her 40th birthday, she left Berea "to find that place where her deep gladness meets the world's deep needs" and became the executive director of the Bluegrass

Rape Crisis Center, a non-profit service and advocacy organization whose mission is to eliminate sexual violence and human trafficking in 17 counties in central Kentucky. Mae is the former chair of the Berea Human Rights Commission and is an avid blogger on social justice issues via her Plain Jane Activism blog. Mae ran for Berea City Council in 2014, and while she lost her bid by 200 votes, she helped to renew civic engagement among everyday Bereans, and helped to diversify the voices and faces represented in local campaigns and elections. In her various roles, Mae has provided internships, employment opportunities and

"... I was definitely very honored and humbled to receive this award. It wouldn't matter if I won any other award out there, I don't believe it would matter as much to me as this award right here."



mentoring to countless fellow Bereans. Mae has a B.A. in psychology from Berea College and an M.A. in counseling from Eastern Kentucky University. She believes, with every fiber of her being, that the world is more whole when we focus on that which binds us, rather than what divides us.

CARA STEWART, '03 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award

Cara Stewart is a Health Law Fellow with the Kentucky Equal Justice Center (KEJC), a non-profit advocacy and research center focused on poverty law. Born and raised in Floyd County, Kentucky, and a lifelong Kentucky resident, she is a graduate of Pikeville High School, Berea College and Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Since law school, Cara worked for over six years at Legal Aid of the Bluegrass representing low-income Kentuckians in a wide-variety of civil matters, domestic violence and public benefits to evictions and consumer issues. Housing became Cara's primary area of focus and in 2012 she published a law review article on landlord-tenant law and breaking down barriers to justice

in Kentucky. Cara transitioned to KEJC in June 2013 and was able to play a role in Kentucky's continuing success with implementation of the Affordable Care Act by conducting community education presentations across the Commonwealth to thousands of Kentuckians, and across the country, enrolling Kentuckians in health coverage, representing Kentucky by invitation at national meetings and through interviews with various local, regional and national media outlets. Some of the most notable media outlets she spoke with were *The New York Times*, NPR, *The Wall Street Journal*, The Huffington Post, *The Economist*, *USA Today* and the *New Yorker*. She was recently presented with the Young Lawyer Service to Community Award by the Young Lawyers Division of the

"...I was completely overcome. I could almost start crying right now thinking about it 'cause I care so much about Berea and Berea is so important to me in terms of my experience and in terms of others to be acknowledged or celebrated by the people that I respect the most. I don't have words for it. I don't have words for it without crying."



Kentucky Bar Association, and was appointed to Kentucky's Healthcare Improvement Authority Board by former Governor Steve Beshear

SUMMER REUNION 2016

JUNE 10-12

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2016

| | | |
|------------|---|---|
| 8am-4:30pm | Registration | Woodson Lobby, Alumni Building Will be moved to the Picnic area at 4:30 p.m. |
| 3pm-4:30pm | Great Commitments Society Reception A celebration and reception to recognize Great Commitments Society members. This event is open to all alumni and their guests. Refreshments will be served. | Boone Tavern |
| 6pm-8pm | Picnic A casual gathering with designated seating provided for special reunion classes. Casual dress. | Campus Quad Rain site: Mountaineer Dining Hall |

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016

| | | |
|-----------------|--|--|
| 8am-2pm | Registration | Woodson Lobby, Alumni Building |
| 8am | 50th Reunion Breakfast for the Class of '66 This event is hosted by President Lyle and First Lady Laurie Roelofs. Class members will be inducted into the Charles T. Morgan Society. | President's Home |
| 8:30am-10am | Sweetheart Breakfast For couples who met at Berea College. | Coyle Room, Boone Tavern |
| 10:30am-11:30am | Alumni Awards Presentation and "State of the College" Address by President Lyle Roelofs Distinguished Alumnus Award Dr. Miles Hayes, '57 Alumni Loyalty Award Janie Adams Frazier, '72 Honorary Alumnus Award Fred Baker | Commons, Woods-Penn |
| Noon-1:30pm | Class Luncheons Buffets will be set up in each room. | See onsite schedule for class lounges |
| 4pm-6pm | Reception Enjoy mingling and appetizers prepared by the Historic Boone Tavern Hotel and Restaurant. | Coyle and Skylight Rooms, Boone Tavern |

SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2016

| | | |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| 10:30am | Alumni Worship Service | Union Church |
|---------|-------------------------------|--------------|

BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR SUMMER REUNION 2016.

IT WILL BE A SPECIAL REUNION YEAR FOR THE CLASSES OF
1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981, AND 1986

Date: _____ Full Name: _____
Name (first, maiden and last as it will appear on nametag): _____ Class Year: _____
Spouse/Guest Name: _____ Spouse/Guest Class Year (if applicable): _____
E-mail: _____ Telephone Number: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

- **Great Commitments Society Reception, 3:00 p.m.**
_____ # attending (No Charge)
- **Picnic, 6.00 p.m.**
_____ # attending (Cost: \$16.00/person)

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

- **50th Reunion (Class of 1966) Breakfast, 8:00 a.m.**
_____ # attending (No Charge)
- **Sweetheart Breakfast, 8.30 a.m.**
_____ # attending (Cost: \$13.00/person)
- **Alumni Awards Presentation featuring a "State of the College" Address by President Lyle Roelofs, 10:30 a.m.**
_____ # attending (No Charge)
- **Class Luncheon, Noon**
_____ # attending (Cost: \$10.00/person)
If you are not a member of a special reunion class, please note the class lounge or special area you will be dining in.
Class Lounge Year _____ or Special Area _____
- **Reception, 4:00 p.m. (No Dress Code)**
_____ # attending (Cost: \$10.00/person)

(Checks payable to Berea College)

Contribution to Berea Fund \$ _____
Ticket Costs \$ _____
Total Amount \$ _____

CHECK (Check Number _____) OR
 CREDIT CARD (Select Card Type)

AMERICAN EXPRESS MASTERCARD
 DISCOVER VISA

Expiration Date _____

Card Number _____

Printed Name of Cardholder _____

Signature of Cardholder _____

HOW TO REGISTER

Online: alumni.berea.edu/summerreunion

Phone: 866-804-0591 (toll free)

Mail: Berea College Alumni Relations,
CPO 2203, Berea, KY 40404

*** For a pre-printed nametag and registration packet, early reservations must be made by May 27. Registration packets will be available for pick-up at the Alumni Building beginning June 10. **A limited number of tickets will be available for purchase at the registration desk.** No ticket refunds will be accepted after May 27. Registration forms must be postmarked by May 27.

SAVE THE DATE



Homecoming 2016

November 11-13

ALUMNI AWARDS

Celebrate and recognize
those who inspire you.

Nominate at:
alumni.berea.edu/awards

The Berea College Alumni Association enjoys hearing from Bereans from all over the U.S. and the world. The "Class Notes" section of *Berea College Magazine (BCM)* reports verifiable news that has been sent to the Association by alumni. BCM reports the news you wish to share with your alumni friends and associates. "Class Notes" reports careers, weddings, retirements, births and other items of importance to our alumni. Please include your class year and name used while attending Berea. Notes may be edited for style and length. Please note that our printing deadlines may delay the appearance of your class news. While we will make every effort to put your information into the next issue of BCM, some delays due to printing schedules may occur. We appreciate your understanding. Submit class notes and photographs via email: alumninews@berea.edu.

1949

Peggy Johnson Duncan, Acad, '45, gives many thanks to Amy Harmon, '99, and John Harmon, '95, for their help with the May 2015 picnic at Balboa Park for San Diego alumni.

Franklin Parker and Betty June Parker, '50, gave a joint dialogue, June 15, 2015, on "Minorities' Protests in the 1960s, the 20th Century's Most Tumultuous Decade," at Uplands Village, Pleasant Hill, Tennessee, where they have lived since 1994. The couple will conduct another dialogue, June 20, 2016, on "Robert F. Kennedy versus Lyndon B. Johnson – The Feud Over John F. Kennedy's Legacy." Request copies of these and their other writings through their email address: bfparker@frontiernet.net

1955

Robert "Bob" and Frances VanSant Edwards, '54, are both retired. They attended Bob's 60th reunion at Berea College. The couple was married in Danforth Chapel.

1962

Birth: a daughter, Carly Rose Evans, to Deanna and Holly Evans on October 23, 2015. Carly is the granddaughter of **Carl Evans** and Dr. Ann Evans.

1964

Lois Allison Menasian has been retired for 20 years after having worked in the public school systems of Duvall County, Florida, and Cherokee County, North Carolina, for 30 years.

Lowell and Peggy Baird Murray, '66, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with friends and family on September 20, 2015 at a reception in their honor. The reception, organized by their daughters, Melissa and Margaret, took place in the Coyle Gathering Room at the Historic Boone Tavern Hotel and Restaurant. The couple married on September 5, 1965 in Danforth Chapel and made Berea their home. Peggy taught at Berea Community School for 35 years and Lowell is a former Berea fire chief.



Lowell and Peggy Baird Murray, '66

1967

Doug Riffey was a pilot for 39 years, flying for the U.S. Air Force, Delta Air Lines and corporations. In 2010, he received a kidney transplant and encourages everyone to be an organ donor. He may be contacted at bassetllc@charter.net.

1968

On behalf of President Lyle D. Roelofs, **Dr. Barbara Fleming** represented Berea College at the September 25, 2015 investiture ceremony of Dr. Algeania Marie Warren Freeman, the 20th president of Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio.

1970

Gerald Moss was installed as district governor of Lions Club District 43-C on June 30, 2015 in Honolulu, Hawaii. District 43-C covers a majority of the counties in central and southeastern Kentucky. Gerald and his wife, Brenda, attended the Lions Club International Convention in Honolulu with about 20 other Lions from across Kentucky.

1972

Shayla Damron Mettelle, Ed.D., completed her doctoral degree in August 2015 at the University of Kentucky. Her doctorate is in literacy education from the department of curriculum and instruction, where she was a teaching assistant for several years as a supervisor for practicum and student teachers with the office of field experiences. Dr. Mettelle is currently teaching English at Bluegrass Community and Technical College in Anderson County. Her address is 8008 Sea Hero Run, Versailles, KY 40383.



Shayla Damron Mettelle, Ed.D., '72

1973

On behalf of President Lyle D. Roelofs, **Dr. Betty Coffey** represented Berea College at the September 19, 2015 installation ceremony of Dr. Mary K. Grant, the seventh chancellor of the University of North Carolina, Asheville.

1980

On behalf of President Lyle D. Roelofs, **Dr. D. Michael Graham** represented Berea College at the October 2, 2015 installation ceremony of Dr. Fayneese Miller, the 20th president of Hamline University in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

1982

Michael Flynn is the vice president and director of business development at Byce & Associates Architects. He and his wife, Maryann Sophie, have two children, Logan and Scott.

1985

Pamela Hunt is in her 18th year of teaching for the Mansfield City (Ohio) school system as a general music teacher. In summer 2015, she won 1st place in autoharp at the Tazewell (Virginia) Fiddlers Convention and 1st place in dulcimer at the Morehead (Kentucky) Old Time Music Festival. Pamela resides in Mansfield, Ohio.

1987

In November 2015 **Will Spivey** was named president of Excalibur, a full-service direct

marketing firm based in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. For the last 25 years, he has provided strategic marketing counsel to a wide range of companies, from the Fortune 50 to start-ups. In 1999, Will founded Maxim Direct, a full-service direct marketing agency, which he grew to be among the largest direct marketing agencies in the Southeast. He recently co-developed and taught a new undergraduate and master's level course at Wake Forest University in marketing analytics.



Will Spivey, '87

1988

Allan Mills was elected chairman of the board of directors for the Project Management Institute Educational Foundation (PMIEF). PMIEF's mission is to inspire and empower people to realize their potential and transform their lives and their communities through use of project management knowledge. For more information, visit www.pmief.org.



Allan Mills, '88

1989

Jeanette Humphrey Byrd is the principal of Cummings Elementary, home to 685 students. She also teaches a 5:00 a.m. exercise boot camp at the YMCA, along with Sunday school. Jeanette is married to Alexander, a professor at Rice University.

Mark Collett is the owner of Park Hills Animal Hospital in Park Hills, Kentucky. He has been a veterinarian since 1996 when he received his certification from the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine.

1992

Jennifer Hale Stafford was recently promoted to director of the division of support and research in the office of assessment and accountability in the Kentucky Department of Education. Her husband, **Robert Stafford, '89**, completed his Ed.D. at Northern Kentucky University in 2015.

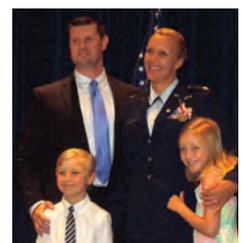
Menelaos Karamichalis lives with his family in Colorado. He is touring the state by bicycle, when work permits.

1995

On behalf of President Lyle D. Roelofs, **Dr. Monica Rodríguez** represented Berea College at the August 29, 2015 inauguration ceremony of Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., the 14th president of Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas.

1998

Major Kristin L. Harlow-Smith retired in fall 2015 as flight commander of the Maternal Child Care Flight, 88th Operations Squadron, 88th Medical Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio, where she supervised nursing care for approximately 850 mothers and babies each



year. After earning a nursing degree from Berea, she was a specialized perinatal nurse in the Nurse Corps. In 2003, Maj. Smith was selected for a special duty assignment as an aeromedical evacuation flight nurse and was deployed four times in support of operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. In 2011, she was assigned to the Wright-Patterson AFB Medical Center, where she advanced to the position of flight commander. Maj. Smith and her husband MSgt. (Ret) Josh Smith have two children, Kathryn and Joshua.

Ricky Kirk is enrolled in Sullivan University's culinary arts program and is pursuing an associate of arts degree in culinary arts. He is employed at Solomon's Porch Café and Catering in Wilmore, Kentucky.



Ricky Kirk, '98

2001

Karen Maynard studied the stunning ecosystems, fascinating array of unique desert plants and the diversity of life at the Bahía de los Angeles UNESCO World Heritage site and in the crystal blue waters of the Sea of Cortez in summer 2015. Karen, an educator at Louisville Zoo in Kentucky, took the graduate course in pursuit of

her master's degree from Miami University's Global Field Program.

2004

Birth: a son, Atticus Scott French, to **Dara Evans** and **Kyle French, '02**, on October 16, 2015. Atticus has a big brother, Sawyer. The family resides in Berea.



Atticus Scott French

2005

Tara Ann Kelly graduated in July 2015 with a M.S.N. in executive nursing administration from the University of South Alabama. She was escorted by her niece Aubrey Ann.



Tara Ann Kelly, '05, and niece

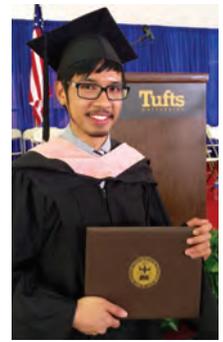
2011

Birth: a daughter, Autumn Paige Babcock, was born to **Ashley Harris-Babcock** and **Derek Babcock** on June 14, 2015. Ashley is a human

resources representative at Amazon. The family resides in Thorntown, Indiana.

2014

Daryl A. Mangosing graduated in May 2015 from the Tufts University School of Medicine in Medford, Massachusetts with a master's degree in public health with a concentration in health communication. In January, Daryl began working at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) at the University of California San Francisco.



Daryl A. Mangosing, '14

2015

Birth: a son, Theodore Aaron States, was born to **Mary Esther States** and **Kevin States** on October 4, 2015.



Theodore Aaron States

PASSAGES

Faculty and Staff

Alice K. Batson Ph.D., of Conway, Arkansas, passed away September 23, 2015. She was a professor of nursing at Berea College for many years and a member of Woodland Heights Baptist Church. Alice is survived by her husband of 64 years, Francis, three sons, eight grandchildren, one great-grandchild and a host of extended family and friends.

Dr. Robert "Dr. Bob" Joseph Chabora, of Raymond, Maine, passed away September 19, 2015. He was a classical pianist and music professor at Berea College, the University of Maine at Fort Kent, Concordia College (Minnesota) and Regional School Unit 14 middle schools in Maine. A respected writer and biographer, Robert's "legacy" project, "Search and Celebration: The Life and Art of Malcolm Frager," (forthcoming in 2016 from Cambria Publishers, Amherst, New York) and the PBS documentary film, "Malcolm Frager: American Pianist" (forthcoming in 2016 from Prairie Public Broadcasting in Fargo, North Dakota) are currently being completed posthumously. He is survived by his wife, **Dr. Pamela Dawn Chabora, '78**, a daughter-in-law, two grandchildren and two brothers.

Dr. Everett William Schaeffer, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away September 23, 2015. He served as an U.S. Army doctor at the end of WWII. After serving his country, Everett worked as a missionary doctor at the Red Bird Mission in Beverly, Kentucky. The Mission's Schaeffer Clinic is named in his honor. After his retirement from Red Bird in 1984, Everett and his wife, Roberta, moved to Berea, where he was a doctor for Berea College Health Services until his retirement in 1994. He is survived by his children, **Rev. Robert Schaeffer, '71**, **Ruth Walker, '73**, Margery Justice and **Pastor David Schaeffer, '77**, four grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

1930s

Fred Arms, Acad '38, of Danville, Kentucky, passed away September 25, 2015. He was a WWII U.S. Army veteran, a member of First Christian Church in Danville and worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He is survived by two children, Eric

and Laura, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

1940s

Graham Watson Somers, '40, of Charlotte, North Carolina, passed away September 14, 2015. From 1942 to 1946, he served in WWII as a first lieutenant field officer and anti-aircraft artillery specialist. He was in the Coast Artillery Corps, fought in Normandy, France and in the Battle of the Bulge. Graham received a Medal of Honor from the French government for his role in the liberation of Paris. In addition to Berea College, he attended Mars Hill University in North Carolina and earned a master's degree from Duke University. He retired after teaching 40 years in the North Carolina public school system. Graham is survived by his daughter, Mary Lynn, two sisters and many nieces and nephews.

Alice Stevens Burgess, '41, of Benicia, California, passed away July 26, 2015. Alice and her twin sister, Lois, were the first in their family to attend college, during which Alice served as president of the national collegiate YWCA. After graduating from Berea, she enrolled at Union Theological Seminary in New York, but left when she married fellow student David Burgess. In the 1940s, she worked alongside her husband as part of his ministry in migrant labor camps. Her husband's diplomatic work kept them moving around the world, as well as giving them the chance to meet famous people, such as Indira Gandhi and Marlon Brando. Alice is survived by her brother, Arlin, four children, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Glenn H. Shoun, '41, of Bronson, Michigan, passed away August 28, 2015. After graduating from Berea, he enrolled in a master's program at the University of Kentucky, but was drafted after completing one semester. After returning from military service, Glenn earned a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Oberlin School of Theology in 1949. He served as a pastor and retired from the Bronson Plating Company in 1987. Glenn is survived by his wife Ellen, five children, eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Capt. Fred M. Taylor, '42, of Capay, California, passed away April 18, 2015. At age 20, during WWII, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and attended advanced flying school. Stationed in England, Fred flew 32 missions from May 1944 to August 1944, including a bombing mission in support of the amphibious landings on D-Day. He was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak-leaf clusters and two battle stars for his service in the Western European theatre. After the war, Fred joined Pan American Airways, from which he retired after 36 years. During the Vietnam War, he volunteered to fly government rest and recreation (R&R) flights for U.S. servicemen out of Da Nang. Fred was preceded in death by his wife, **Bernice Taylor, '41**. He is survived by his children, Mike and Pat, four grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, six great-great-grandchildren and three siblings.

Virginia Piland Ferrill, '43, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away October 25, 2014. She is survived by daughters, Tracy and Lindsey, sister, **Ruth Luthringer, '46** and several nieces and nephews.

Audra Osborn Smith, Acad '39, '43, of Danville, Kentucky, passed away September 8, 2015. After graduating from Berea, she completed post-graduate work at the University of Kentucky. Audra taught home economics at Louise, Mount Vernon and Junction City high schools. In 1963, she became a librarian at Boyle County High School and retired in 1986 after 37 years of teaching. Audra is survived by two children, Gene and Sheryl, and three grandchildren.

Andrew R. Hawkins, Navy V-12 '43-'44, of Norfolk, Virginia, passed away July 24, 2014. He retired from the U.S. Navy after 22 years of service. Andy later worked as a civil servant for the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, where he retired after 21 years of service. He is survived by his children, Richard, Timothy and Mary Ann, four grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Billie Marie Whitsitt, '44, of Madison, Wisconsin, passed away October 4, 2015. While at Berea College, she met **Robert Edgin Whitsitt, '44**, who would be her husband for 30 years and preceded her in death. When the U.S. Navy sent Robert to Okinawa, Japan, Billie and the couple's two children lived with him there until they returned to Rockford, Illinois, where Robert practiced medicine and they had a third child. Billie then became a

first-grade teacher, earned a master's degree in education at Rockford College, and taught for the next 20 years. Billie is survived by her children, Robert, Richard and Jill, eight grandchildren, six great-grandchildren, brother, **Paul Nestor, '42**, several nieces, nephews, grandnieces and grandnephews.

Allan K. Honkanen, Navy V-12 '45-'46, of Gilbert, Minnesota, passed away October 24, 2015. He attended Eveleth Jr. College, then served in the U.S. Navy during WWII, during which he was enrolled in the Reserve Officers' Training Corp program and attended Berea College and Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. Allan was employed for 35 years by U.S. Steel in the accounting department. He is survived by two sons, Rodney and David, two granddaughters, a brother and several nieces and nephews.

Carl Louis Tillstrom, Navy V-12 '44-'45, of Shreveport, Louisiana, passed away September 4, 2014. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and earned a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1948. Carl worked as an engineer with Phillips Petroleum Co. and at Lion Oil Co. He was a member of the American Petroleum Institute, National Petroleum Refiners Association and American Society of Mechanical Engineers. In his retirement, he became an accomplished artisan in stained glass and wood turning. He is survived by two sons, Eric and Lee, four grandchildren, a sister and two nieces.

Glenn Crosswhite, Navy V-12/V-5, '43-'44, '46, of Frankfort, Kentucky, passed away November 20, 2015. He studied chemistry and mathematics at Berea and then attended Northwestern University, where he achieved the rank of ensign in the U.S. Navy during WWII. Glenn served as a captain on a sub chaser in the Pacific. His first job was with the National Distillers Co. as a chemist. He later served as superintendent of the Old Crow plant for 36 years before retirement. Glenn is survived by his sister-in-law, Nell, and several nieces and nephews.

Patricia Allen Morgan, '46, of South Burlington, Vermont, passed away October 10, 2015. Despite being hearing impaired from age 2, she graduated from Pikeville High School, earned a bachelor's degree in home economics from Berea, and in 1947, earned a master's degree in religious education from Boston University School of Theology. Pat went to Africa in 1948 and taught science in Mount Salinda and the Rhodesian Forest Reserve until moving back to the U.S. in 1965. She taught English for nine years at Baptist College at Charleston while earning a master's degree in English from the University of South Carolina. Pat is survived by her children, Charlotte and Noel, stepdaughters, Diana and Susan, and numerous family and friends.

Ernest C. Venable, Acad '46, of Eaton, Ohio, passed away July 5, 2015. He was a U.S. Army veteran who served at sea during WWII and retired after 33 years at General Electric Company, where he worked as a field/area engineer. Ernest was commissioned a "Kentucky Colonel" in 1970, was listed in the 2001-02 edition of "Who's Who in Executives and Professionals," was a member of the King Hiram Masonic Lodge in West Alexandria, Ohio, a member of the Eaton Farm Bureau and a member of the Memorial Baptist Church in Eaton, Ohio. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Martha, three sons, eight grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren, three siblings, a sister-in-law and numerous nieces and nephews.

Kier M. Finlayson, of New Holland, Pennsylvania, passed away January 27, 2015. He is survived by his wife, **Mary Lou Keener Finlayson, Acad '43, '47**. He earned a bachelor's degree in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and completed graduate studies in physics at the University of Missouri. Kier worked as an analytical physicist until his retirement in 1986, after which he kept busy as an editor of several scientific journals at Technomics. In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters, nine grandchildren, one great-grandson, a sister and a niece.

Alice Franklin Baker, '48, of Madison, Alabama, passed away September 26, 2015. After graduating from Berea, she attended the Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia, and earned a registered nurse degree through Ft. Sanders Regional Medical Center, Knoxville. Although she intended to be a missionary, Alice fell in love and raised a family instead. Over the years, she used her nursing skills to help family and friends with special duty nursing care. Alice is survived by four children – Mary, Patty, Joanna and Keith, a son-in-law, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, five siblings and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Nancy Winston Hurst Crouch, of Lexington, Kentucky, passed away July 26, 2015. She is survived by her husband, **William Jerome Crouch, Acad '45, '49**. Nancy worked in the acquisitions department of the University of Kentucky's Margaret I. King Library and later at the Morris Book Shop on East Main Street. In 1979, she started working in the circulation department at the Lexington Public Library and remained for 21 years until her retirement. In addition to her husband, Nancy is survived by two sons.

Ernest Graham, Acad '46, '49, of Vernon Hills, Illinois, passed away November 1, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corps, serving in the South West Pacific Theater and Japan in WWII and eventually earning the rank of captain. Ernest was on the Berea College Alumni Executive Council from 2000 to 2004 and served as its president from 2002 to 2003. He worked for the Scott Paper Co. for 23 years, was the general manager of Menominee Paper Company for 10 years and worked as a consultant after retirement. Ernest is survived by three children – Margaret, Nona and Bruce, three grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Ellis W. Hauser, '49, of Jasper, Georgia, passed away September 7, 2015. He was the husband of **Constance Hauser, '47**, who preceded him in death on December 2, 2002. Ellis attended Brevard College before enlisting in the U.S. Navy, where he served in the Pacific theater during WWII. After returning from the war, he earned a bachelor's degree from Berea College, a master's degree from North Carolina State University and a doctoral degree in plant physiology from Iowa State University. Ellis had a distinguished career as a research scientist with the USDA and was the author or co-author of more than 20 scholarly research articles. He is survived by three children – Karen, Steven and David, six grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and a sister.

French Earl Rogers Jr., '49, of Hendersonville, North Carolina, passed away November 9, 2015. After graduating from Berea, he earned a master's degree from the University of Illinois. French was a beloved high school teacher in Henderson County for many years and his students fondly called him "Pop Rogers." He was a WWII U.S. Navy veteran and a member of Hendersonville United Methodist Church. French was preceded in death by his wife, **Barbrea Rogers, '49**. He is survived by his son, Ray, a grandson, siblings **JC Rogers, '52**, Doyle and Virginia, a grandson, a brother-in-law, nieces, nephews, cousins, friends and students.

1950s

Charles Stratton Little, Acad, '46, '50, of Beaver Creek, Ohio, passed away April 17, 2015. He attended Berea Academy until age 18 and then enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where he received electrical training. Charles was assigned to the USS Miami, which was active in the Asiatic Pacific area and in the liberation of the Philippines. After his discharge in 1946, he returned to school at Berea, where he fell in love with his English tutor and wife of 67 years, **Hazel Graff Little, Fd '47**. Charles earned a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Kentucky in 1950 and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Dayton in 1988. He worked for

Western Electric in Columbus, Ohio, for 35 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by four children, seven grandsons and one granddaughter.

Mildred "Millie" Mary Green Redman, '50, of Hot Springs, Virginia, passed away August 26, 2015. She worked at Gerber Baby Foods as a research technician, was a home economics teacher and was an active member of the Hot Springs Baptist Church for many years. Millie is survived by her daughter, Josephine, eight grandchildren, numerous great and great-great grandchildren, three siblings, a daughter-in-law and numerous nieces and nephews.

William Everett "Bill" Arrowood, Fd '47, '51, of Spruce Pine, North Carolina, passed away September 7, 2015. During his time at Berea, he was an accomplished high diver on the varsity diving team. Upon graduation, Bill was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a civilian geologist. After completing post-graduate work at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, he became the owner of Arrowood Surveying, P.A. and also worked as a consultant geologist. Bill was a pilot and a long-time member of the Board of Trustees for Mayland Community College. He is survived by a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, a son-in-law, a granddaughter and a special friend.

Dr. William M. Waller, '51, of Verona, Kentucky, passed away September 20, 2015. He was a retired physician, after having served his hometown community for many years. He was a U.S. Navy veteran, a deacon at New Bethel Baptist Church in Verona, and a cattle and tobacco farmer. Dr. Waller served on numerous boards and committees throughout his life. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Leola Jo, three daughters, one son, 10 grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

James W. Hale, '52, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, passed away September 10, 2015. After graduating from Berea, he served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. In 1956, James married his wife of 59 years, **Virginia Dorton Hale, '53**, and began working for General Electric Appliance Park in Louisville. After retiring in 1988, he volunteered for more than two decades with Service Corps of Retired Executives, preparing income tax returns for AARP and coordinating drivers for cancer patients for the American Cancer Society. He was a competitive USTA tennis player until age 80. In addition to his wife, he is survived by two children, a daughter-in-law, four sisters-in-law and 20 nieces and nephews.

Jerry Leon Harrison, Fd '52, of Richmond, Kentucky, passed away November 13, 2015. He was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, a member of White's Memorial Presbyterian Church, a Mason and a Shriner. After leaving the military, Jerry was a cowboy in Oklahoma and returned home to operate the family farm at Whites Station. He devoted many years to raising Belgian and Percheron draft horses. He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Patricia, five children, eight grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and three special caregivers.

John Billy Few, '54, of Lilburn, Georgia, passed away May 12, 2015. He was a U.S. Army veteran who served during the Korean War. He worked at AT&T and retired after 30 years of service. John loved to spend time with his grandchildren and had a passion for golf, singing and his pets. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Martha, two children, three grandchildren, two great-grandsons, one brother, and numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and loving friends.

Russell Mack Pressley, '54, of Belmont, North Carolina, passed away November 8, 2015. He attended Mars Hill Junior College, Berea College and then Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. While in college, "Preacher Mack" began his ministry at Pilot Knob Baptist Church in Berea. Russell pastored several churches during his life and worked as the director of missions for Upper Cumberland Association and later, Boone's Creek Baptist Association. Much of his ministry was devoted to youth, which led him to build Camp Howard, or "Happy Top," in Wallins Creek,

Kentucky. Russell is survived by his wife of 60 years, Christian, three daughters, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Betty P. Bond, Fd '56, of Marlton, New Jersey, passed away May 22, 2015. She worked for 24 years at the Cherry Hill Clover store and several years at Kohl's of Marlton. Betty also was a member of Heritage Baptist Church. She is survived by her husband, **John W. Bond, '56**, two daughters, six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and five sisters.

William B. Wharton, D.M.D., of Lexington, Kentucky, passed away April 4, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, **Dorothy Sue Vanhorn Wharton, '57**. Dr. Wharton attended Union College and graduated from the University of Louisville College of Dentistry in 1958. He opened a dental practice in Lexington in 1965 and enjoyed a long and successful career in general dentistry. In addition to his wife, he is survived by one daughter.

Wayne Sebastian of Lexington, Kentucky, passed away August 26, 2015. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, **Frances (Stephens) Sebastian, '58**. Wayne was a U.S. Army veteran and served during the Korean War. He worked for 42 years at Standard Products Company in Lexington. In addition to his wife, Wayne is survived by three sons and seven grandchildren.

Dr. Joshua Rieff Boyd Jr., '59, of Plano, Texas, passed away November 11, 2015. He earned degrees from Berea, the University of Illinois, the University of the Incarnate Word, the University of Texas, San Antonio, and a doctorate in education from Texas A&M University. Joshua served in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, worked for the United States Information Agency in Brazil, was a high school counselor for 27 years and taught English as a Second Language at various colleges. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, **Shirley Ann Boyd, '60**, three children, three siblings and three grandchildren.

J. Gordon "Buddy" Tuell, '59, of Marion, Virginia, passed away September 5, 2015. After serving in the U.S. Air Force, he attended Berea College and graduated from Emory & Henry College in 1977. Buddy was a lifelong educator who dedicated his life to community service. In addition to serving on various education boards and Democratic campaigns, he lobbied for higher pay for teachers and was the first director for the Neighborhood Youth Corps (now Mountain Cap). He retired from Smyth County Schools as a high school teacher. He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Peggy, one daughter, one granddaughter, two great-grandchildren, a sister, special cousins and friends.

1960s

Christine R. Godsey, '60, of Hamilton, Ohio, passed away October 22, 2015. For 30 years, she enjoyed a career as an English teacher for Fairfield High School. She is survived by her husband of 55 years, **Maurice A. Godsey, '60**, two children, five grandchildren, four siblings, and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

Harold Bruce Martin, '62, of Pawleys Island, South Carolina, passed away April 1, 2015. He was born in Bath County, Kentucky, the son of the late Everett Auxier Martin and Sallie Lee Jones Martin. Bruce was a member of St. Paul's Waccamaw United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife, Sue Ella, a daughter-in-law, a brother, six grandchildren and a number of nieces and nephews.

Barbara Anne McCoury Ward, '63, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, passed away February 12, 2015. She was preceded in death by her husband, **Delmar Ward, '61**. Barbara loved her time at Berea and spoke often of it throughout her life. A loving homemaker and devout Roman Catholic, she actively supported numerous charitable organizations. Barbara enjoyed reading, working in her yard and word puzzles. She especially excelled at being "Supergrandma." She is survived by five children – James, John, Timothy, Barbara and Annedda, four sisters and eight grandchildren.

Doyal M. Wynn, of Rutledge, Tennessee, passed away April 25, 2013. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, **Kate Wynn, '63**. Doyal served on the Grainger County School Board for 25 years, as a county commissioner for six years and as a school bus driver for 30 years. In addition to his wife, he is survived by one son, a daughter-in-law and three grandchildren.

Molane Arnett, '64, of Waynesburg, Kentucky, passed away November 3, 2015. She was an English teacher at Jefferson County Schools. Molane was a talented painter, an avid reader and an animal lover. She loved Native American history and culture and was proud of her distant Cherokee heritage. Molane was preceded in death by her husband, **William Gleason Arnett, '63**, and is survived by one daughter, Angela, and one grandchild.

Merlin R. Kindel, Fd '60, '64, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away October 11, 2015. He lived in Kenya with his parents, who were Quaker missionaries there from 1948 to 1952. During his return flight from Nairobi to New York, Merlin discovered his passion for flying. He worked a paper route and in Illinois pea fields to pay for flying lessons. After graduating from Berea with a degree in industrial arts, Merlin got his first job with Ford Motor Company. In 1966, he became a pilot for Trans World Airlines. He retired as a captain in 2000. Merlin is survived by his wife of 19 years, **Dorothy Kindel, Fd '61**, his sisters, **Marilyn Kindel Powell, '65**, **Arlene Kindel, '72**, and **Garnet Kindel Chrisman, '77**, two children, three step-children, five grandchildren, several nieces and nephews and his faithful dog, Skipper.

Gregory Montgomery "Mont" Quesenberry, '65, of Draper, Virginia, passed away August 19, 2015. After graduating from Berea, he earned a master's degree in music from Radford University. Mont was choir director at Dublin High School and Pulaski County High School until his retirement in 1991. He is survived by a brother, David, a sister, Brenda, one sister-in-law, two brothers-in-law, numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Fredonna Carolyn Slone Ritchie, '66, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away October 2, 2015. She was a graduate of both Berea College and Eastern Kentucky University. Fredonna was a CPA who retired from Jones & Ritchie CPAs and was a member of Silver Creek Baptist Church. She is survived by three children – John, David and Shannon, stepsons Brian and Michael, two brothers and a sister.

1970s

James "Jimmy" Hubert Fore, '71, of Arden, North Carolina, passed away April 1, 2015. He retired from BorgWarner after many years of service. Jimmy enjoyed playing golf, traveling, music and playing the guitar. He is survived by four siblings – Joanne, Sharon, Danny and Brenda, and many nieces and nephews.

Joan K. Lewis, '75, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away November 7, 2015. She is survived by her mother, Martha, her siblings Stephen and Janet, nephews Jeremy and Jonathon, niece Jessica, great-nephew Trey and great-niece Anna.

Dr. Robert "Dr. Bob" Joseph Chabora, of Raymond, Maine, passed away September 19, 2015. He was a classical pianist and music professor at Berea College, the University of Maine at Fort Kent, Concordia College in Minnesota and Regional School Unit 14 middle schools in Maine. A respected writer and biographer, Robert's "legacy" project, "Search and Celebration: The Life and Art of Malcolm Frager" (forthcoming in 2016 from Cambria Publishers, Amherst, New York) and the PBS documentary film, "Malcolm Frager: American Pianist" (forthcoming in 2016 from Prairie Public Broadcasting in Fargo, North Dakota) are currently being completed posthumously. He is survived by his wife, **Dr. Pamela Dawn Chabora, '78**, a son, a daughter-in-law, two grandchildren and two brothers.

Pamela Wilson Keene, '79, of Memphis, Tennessee, passed away June 22, 2015. After graduating from Berea, she served as a family service coordinator at the Oakland Livingston Human Resources Agency until her retirement in June 2013. Pam loved to travel, study the Bible, and was an avid sports fan and historian. She is survived by her husband Timothy, one daughter, two sons, seven siblings, an aunt, a mother-in-law, four brothers-in-law, including **Dr. Robert M. Mayberry, '76**, four sisters-in-law, and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

1980s

Harley "Bud" Glenroy Erwin Jr., '84, of Hilliard, Ohio, passed away November 1, 2015. He earned a scholarship to play basketball at Oklahoma Seminole Jr. College, transferred to Eastern Kentucky University and then Berea. He served more than four years as a corporal in the Kentucky Army National Guard. Bud worked for 16 years for the United States Postal Service. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Gail, two daughters, his mother, four siblings and a large extended family.

1990s

Tammy Yvonne Rose, '94, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away August 29, 2015. She worked for the city of Lexington and was a member of the Church of God. Tammy is survived by her mother, Mary Ellen, two brothers, two nephews and many extended family members.

Lt. Colonel Jeffrey Dale Cole, '98, of Berea, Kentucky, passed away September 11, 2015. After graduating from Berea College, he earned his master's degree at Touro International University. Jeff was a commander of the 149th Infantry Battalion in Barbourville, Kentucky and is a veteran of operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn. He was awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star (2nd award), Meritorious Service Medal (2nd award), Kentucky Distinguished Service Medal and Army Commendation Ribbon. Jeff is survived by his wife, Christy, two children, his mother, a brother, a father- and mother-in-law, a brother- and sister-in-law and a niece.

2000s

Lawrence Vincent Roark, '04, of Oneida, Tennessee, passed away September 6, 2015. At the time of his death, he was attending Tennessee Technological University, studying to become a physician's assistant. In addition to Berea College, Lawrence also attended Roane State Community College. He was previously employed with Schneider Transport Services, Food City, Goody's and C&M Food Services. Lawrence is survived by his mother, Sharon, a grandmother, three siblings, four uncles, two aunts, four nephews, two nieces, a special friend, numerous cousins and other relatives.

Angela Michelle Peppers Taylor, '07, of Clemson, South Carolina, passed away March 5, 2015. She attended Tri-County Technical College. Angela is survived by her parents, William and Johnnie Mae, and three children.

2010s

Bradley Joseph Clay, '11, of Astoria, New York, passed away September 11, 2015. After graduating from Berea, he began his career at audit, tax and advisory firm KPMG in June 2011 and worked his way up to a tax senior accountant. Bradley was a member of the Pine Hill Baptist Church. He is survived by his parents, Stanley and Deborah, one brother, two brothers through friendship, three grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins and a multitude of family and friends from Kentucky to New York.



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