

# OTTERBEIN • COLLEGE TOWERS

Spring, 2000

*An Emerging Diversity  
Blooms  
at Otterbein College*



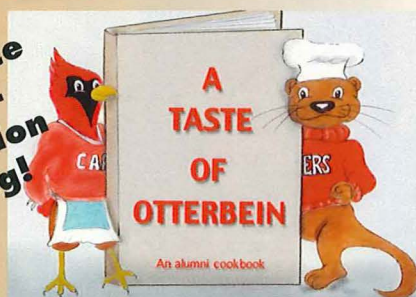


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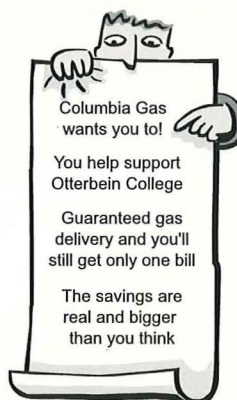
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# C O N T E N T S



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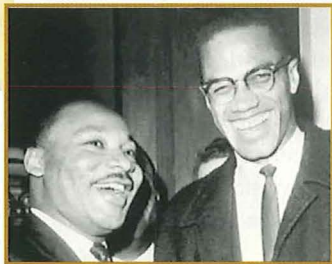
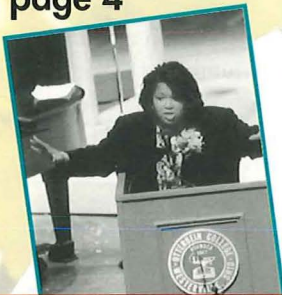
*Each year, more and more students of color come to Otterbein. And like so many other, small liberal arts colleges, Otterbein is feeling the growing pains in moving from a nearly all-white campus to one that more accurately reflects the world around us.*



## Programs & Activities Geared for Students of Color • page 19

*From the House of Black Culture to the Asian Student Interest Association (ASIA), more and more programs are designed to help students of color feel like part of campus life.*

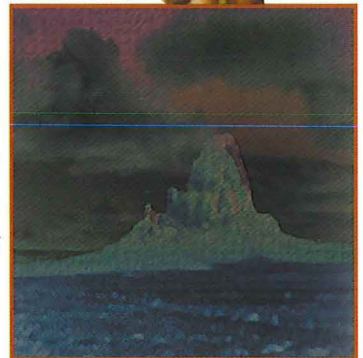
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## What if MLK Jr. & Malcolm X Had Gotten Together? • page 6

## The Diné (Navaho) People • page 24

*Carol Engle, associate professor of Nursing, spent a sabbatical living with and learning from the Navaho people.*



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## International Festival • page 2





compiled by Jenny Hill and Roger Routson



## Festival Brings the World to Otterbein

With flags from around the world adorning the Campus Center walls and the aromas of Irish lamb stew, borscht, and jolley rice wafting through the air, the Global Village Dinner and Talent Show welcomed a multicultural crowd in from the cold on February 8. The dinner and talent show was the largest event of the International Festival 2000, which ran from February 7 – 11 and also featured lectures, films, exhibitions, and more.

The Global Village Dinner and Talent Show was jointly sponsored by the International Students Association (ISA), the African American Student Union (AASU), and the

Asian Student Interest Association (ASIA). The event featured authentic recipes from many of the 36 nations represented by Otterbein's international students and performances of authentic ethnic music and dance by Otterbein students and staff.

Acts at the talent show were as diverse as the flags on the walls. A troupe of young dancers (girls of middle school and early high school age) named "Makedonski Tanek" kicked off the show with a traditional Macedonian dance. Other acts included Angelina Poltavets joining with Lawrence Wang for a head-spinning salsa number, L.A. style; a soulful original song by Napoleon Stephen Wilson performed by Wilson and Jarin Cobbin; and a Japanese piano duet, representing the four seasons,

performed by Kayoka Yokota and Junko Goto.

The rousing conclusion of the talent show was a number of folk dances in which most of the audience joined. The dances were led by Dr. Joy Kiger, associate professor of Health and Physical Education.

The week-long International Festival 2000 included presentations by international students and faculty on many countries, including China, Armenia, Canada, Ukraine, Nepal, Macedonia, Northern Ireland and England. Another highlight was the showing of *Burnt by the Sun*, a Russian movie with English subtitles about the Stalin purges of the 1930s. The festival also gave Otterbein students a chance to learn more about opportunities open to them to study abroad.

The purpose of the annual International Festival is to highlight the presence of international students and faculty on campus, to raise awareness of international issues and topics and to emphasize the importance of foreign language study.



*Upper left: President DeVore joins in the fun of folk dancing at the Global Village Dinner and Talent Show. Upper right: Napoleon Stephen Wilson performs an original song. Left: Sanobar Khudaybergenova (left), from Izbakistan fashions wedding attire while Suzanna Vasilian wears a dance costume from her native Armenia.*



## Diversity: Trying to Get to the Heart of the Matter

I was telling a friend about this issue of *Towers*, how the whole thing was going to focus on and examine issues of ethnic diversity on Otterbein's campus. I was telling him of my fear and worry about doing a good and fair job of it.

"Wow," he said, "who stuck you with that assignment?"

"Um, it was my idea," I said.

He just shook his head and said, "You must like pain."

Race. Color. As a society, we don't talk easily about these things. And let me say I most assuredly do not like pain. It would be nice if this issue of *Towers* wasn't necessary in the year 2000, but that's just not reality. And even though you will read about some wonderful programs and wonderful people at Otterbein promoting diversity, even though you may take pride in the steps your Alma Mater is taking (and you should), this issue is not meant to make us feel comfortable or good about ourselves. It's meant to present voices, ideas, perspectives. It's meant to paint a picture of Otterbein in the middle of a journey from a nearly all-white institution to one that more accurately reflects the world around us. At its most ambitious, it's meant to plant seeds.

I must also state right up front that this issue is not about all kinds of diversity, it is about ethnic diversity. It's not about gender issues, it's not about religious diversity, it's not about sexual diversity. These are all worthy subjects, and if it ever seems appropriate for *Towers* to tackle those issues, then it will happen. This issue is about ethnic diversity, a subject impossible enough to do justice to in one issue.

By a rough count, 18 interviews were conducted for this issue. We should have done 18 more. There's no way I could talk to everyone who I wanted to interview, simply because of deadline constraints. If I didn't interview you, please don't feel slighted. If you have something to say on the issues presented, a perspective not touched upon, please, write me. Let me know that perspective and I will do my best to print it in the next issue of *Towers*.

In doing this issue, I thought back to the first Common Book author, Anna Deavere Smith, and her address in Cowan Hall in the fall of 1995. She talked of the chasm of race that she saw in this country, of her views that the fragile bridge built twenty- and thirty-some years ago by the civil rights movement had collapsed, that the conversation making up that bridge had collapsed. She spoke of seeing a lot of public space and public dialogue being unoccupied. At the time, I thought back to another truism of the 60's, "If you're not part of the solution, you're part of the problem." And I felt that even though I didn't feel racist or insensitive, I wasn't doing anything to help. I wasn't part of the solution.

My hope is that this issue of *Towers* takes up at least a little bit of that unoccupied space, that it is part of the solution.

Jeanne Talley, associate director of Admission, was one of the first individuals I interviewed for this issue. Toward

the end of the interview, I spoke to her about my fears that I would inadvertently offend some people in doing this issue. Her response was something to the effect of, well, you will. You'll offend black people, you'll offend white people. So you might as well go ahead and do it. Those aren't her exact words, but the sentiment is correct. And in a way, it made me less fearful.

Sometimes when I feel fear, especially when it relates to a writing project, I pull out William Faulkner's acceptance speech when he won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1950. Faulkner addresses the young, would-be writers of the day: "(The writer) must teach himself that the basest of all things is to be afraid; and, teaching himself that, forget it forever, leaving no room in his workshop for anything but the old verities and truths of the heart, the old universal truths lacking which any story is ephemeral and doomed—love and honor and pity and pride and compassion and sacrifice." Truths of the heart—love, honor, pity, pride, compassion, sacrifice—are interwoven in the history of this country, in the history of this institution, in working to create a society truly respectful and considerate of all our diverse peoples.

And for those of you who may be thinking I'm belaboring the issue of fear, I suggest that fear is at the heart of our unresolved issues of race. And the heart is what we need to get at. Beth Smith, associate professor of Education: "All of our students are very good at saying the right things. But touching what they say is very different than touching what they feel, and touching what's in here (motioning to her heart). We need to get beyond the lip service to the actual feeling and the heart of the issue."

That's what this issue of *Towers* is trying to get at, the heart. We need to understand that when someone says Otterbein has a way to go in fully embracing diversity and attaining substantial numbers of diversity, it's probably meant as a positive and not a negative, that we are on the way we should be. If someone observes that Otterbein, despite its proud and early history of open doors to diverse populations, has had only white, male presidents for over 150 years, we need to see that as an observation and not an indictment. We need to know that if a person of color vocally and visibly celebrates his heritage, it doesn't mean he no longer likes white people. We need to know that just because a person of color may want to talk about racism that exists on Otterbein's campus, she still considers Otterbein a wonderful place to be.

We need to understand that most all individuals, regardless of color, grow weary at one time or another of talking about race. We need to understand that despite that weariness, it's still necessary to talk about it.

We need to understand that diversity is everyone's issue.

We need to keep an open mind, but even more important, we need to keep an open heart.

Good luck and good reading.



# Judge Brown: Honor Those Who Came Before You

by Amber Allensworth '00

From the moment the melodic sounds of the piano filled Cowan Hall until the standing ovation roared in praise of Judge Yvette McGee Brown's speech, the 14th Annual Otterbein College Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation was charged with emotional speech and moving words.

The Reverend Monty Bradley set the tone early when he urged the audience to not see the day as just another academic convocation but as

"This could be just another cold and snowy day in Ohio," Bradley said, "but it could also be a chance to ignite what Dr. Martin Luther King called the most powerful force on Earth, the only force that is capable of pushing back the powers and principalities of evil and hatred and that is the almighty power of love."

Central to the message by Judge Yvette McGee Brown, this year's featured guest speaker, was recognition to those people who came before us.

"The reason I stand here is that those people who in 1620 landed on the shores of America, snatched from their civilization, snatched from their life, endured the Middle Passage, but were able to come here and still eke out a dignity when others would chose to deny them of that," Brown exclaimed. "They came here and they toiled and they worked when all hope had died. And yet they still believed that

God would deliver them. And it's on the shoulders of those people that I stand."

Judge McGee Brown said to ask ourselves all the time, in everything we do, are we honoring those people who came before us. She instructed us to pursue excellence even when no one was watching.

an opportunity to consider who we are as a people and a nation. Bradley spoke about the moment in time which is the eternal now—the moment in which we are poised between that which is our past and that which is our future.

Judge McGee Brown is the first African American and the second woman to be elected to the Franklin Co. Court of Common Pleas, Division of Domestic Relations and Juvenile Branch. She has spearheaded the SMART program, a truancy and educational neglect prevention program, and has served on numerous philanthropic boards in the community.

Brown commented on the selection of this year's common book at Otterbein. Earlier in the year, some students had become upset that the book portrayed African Americans in a negative way because the book was about poverty.

"I understand that some black students—I still call us black because I am not a hyphenated American, I am an American and will be an American for the rest of my years—thought that selecting that book would cause white students to think that all black people came from that experience," Brown said. "I'm sad because the book (*There Are No Children Here*) is a wonderful piece of literature. It's not false. There are a significant and substantial number of children who live in the kind of poverty depicted in that book."

Brown went on to say that she gives white people more credit than that.

"They know that we are not a monolithic people and that we come from many different experiences and have many different voices," Brown said. "I think it is a sad day on January 18th, in the year 2000, when we can read a book like *There Are No Children Here* and all we can think about is how it will cause others to look at us rather than the poverty and degradation those children are growing up in. I think we've got to be bigger than that," Brown said.

Brown acknowledged that many get tired of talking about racism, herself included. "I know white people get tired of talking about racism. I get tired of talking about race too. I'm



Judge Yvette McGee Brown, the 2000 MLK Jr. Convocation speaker, said to ask ourselves all the time, in everything we do, are we honoring those people who came before us. She instructed us to pursue excellence even when no one was watching.



tired of seeing Al Sharpton on TV and I wish Jesse Jackson would get a job instead of showing up everywhere."

Brown added, "Sometimes, maybe people just don't like you. It's not because you are black, they just don't like you," said Brown.

And then the judge reminded us of why it's important to continue to talk about race. One local example that hit home was an incident that occurred in Franklin County recently. Someone passed out racial leaflets in a new housing development. She then reminded us about the black man in Jasper, Texas in 1998 that was beaten and dragged behind a truck "until his body literally exploded."

Brown maintains that if we talk about racial issues, we would discover that we are more alike than we are different.

"They once said that America is the big melting pot. I think the better belief is that we are not a melting pot, we are like a salad," Brown suggested. "We each maintain our own individuality but together we create something special."

Brown went on to encourage the audience to be what King called 'drum majors for justice' to stand up and be counted and do something to change the world for the better. She also hit on the topic of single mothers in

America and suggested that there be more consequences for the fathers of those children. She added an example from her own life to heighten the importance of her message.

"My mother was 18 when I was born. I could have been one of those kids in the Henry Horner Housing Project (*There Are No Children Here*) that you read about, but the difference was, my mother—even though my father never paid a dime of support for me, and never came to see me and I wouldn't know him if he walked through those double doors—my mother was strong, and was willing to put her children's needs before her own. She made some mistakes but I am here today because she did what she needed to do as a parent," Brown said.

Judge Brown returned again to the importance of those who came before to wrap up her message: "And when people like Clarence Thomas rise to the U.S. Supreme Court and stand up and say that they are self-made men, you look at them and you just start singing *Lift Every Voice and Sing*, because nobody, white, black, brown is a self made person. You all stand on the shoulders of those who came before you. And if we could recognize that, we could spend less time on petty differences," Brown said.

## Otterbein College Celebrates Black History Month

To celebrate the culture of its African American students, Otterbein College's Office of Ethnic Diversity hosted several events for Black History Month in February centering around this year's theme, "In Celebration of Our African American Culture."

Throughout the month, the Black History Cinema film festival featured four films about the history of African Americans in the United States, including *Four Little Girls*, *Eve's Bayou*, *Malcolm X: Make it Plain*, and *Once Upon a Time...When We Were Colored*.

On Feb. 10, State Representative Ray Miller spoke at the Otterbein College Chapel on The Summit: Race, Culture and Class. He challenged the Otterbein community to take a look at how race, culture and class affect poverty and quality of life. The discussion also incorporated this year's Common Book, *There Are No Children Here* by Alex Kotlowitz.

Other events included an African American Student Union talent show and a performance by Tony West and the Imani Dancers.

## The Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards for Peace and Justice

Winners of The Martin Luther King Jr. Awards for Peace and Justice were senior student Eileen Francisco and Assistant Dean and Director of Residence Life Joyce Jadwin.

Francisco is a founding member of the Asian Student Interest Association (ASIA), its first president, and also serves on the Otterbein Board of Trustees.

"Within each of us there's a certain potential and with that potential there is a certain responsibility," Francisco said. "All of us have a voice, all of us have this chance to speak for those whose

voice is not heard, whose power has been taken away. Then if we achieve this we will truly become an involved and evolved society. I'd like to thank the committee, Otterbein's campus and this entire community for not only encouraging me, but allowing me to grow, to explore and to learn new things from all of you."

Joyce Jadwin plays an integral part in the International Students' orientation into life in the United States. She also encourages students, faculty and staff to attend the events sponsored by AASU, ASIA and the International Student program.

"I am truly humbled because I am in the presence of other people who have won this award, who truly embody what this award is about. The people here on stage are people that I constantly learn from. I really encourage you all to take that time to think about what we can do and be a part of to make our future better, because it does take a commitment from all of us," Jadwin said.

The MLK Jr. Peace and Justice awards are presented to a student, faculty, or staff member that demonstrates ideals of equity and equality.



*What would have happened if...*

# Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X Got Together

The Otterbein Artist Series posed the question "What if?" in the production *The Meeting*, a dramatization of an imagined dialogue between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X on Jan. 20 in Cowan Hall.

The two charismatic leaders of the Black Freedom movement met only once, briefly at a press conference. But in this work, playwright

presented both men as more than public figures, but family men with daughters and wives who they loved. Both men were aware that their high profile positions might one day make them martyrs for the civil rights cause.

King and Malcolm recognized the differences in their situations. A Southerner, King faced lynchings, burning crosses and the poor conditions of life in the country shacks in which his followers lived. Living in the city, Malcolm faced drugs, prostitution and the troubles of the ghettos.

Besides the differences in their backgrounds, King and Malcolm also differed over the proper tactics to use in the Black Freedom movement. Malcolm took an active stance, calling his violent teachings "self-defense." He said, "You cannot sacrifice your own people and expect to win."

Malcolm explained that he did not agree with King's tactics for basic reasons, posing the question, "Did legislation help those children murdered in the South?"

King took a non-violent stance, saying that despite the physical and verbal attacks he and his followers suffered, they marched on. "You can

stand up for something by sitting down," he said. "Don't mistake non-violence with non-action."

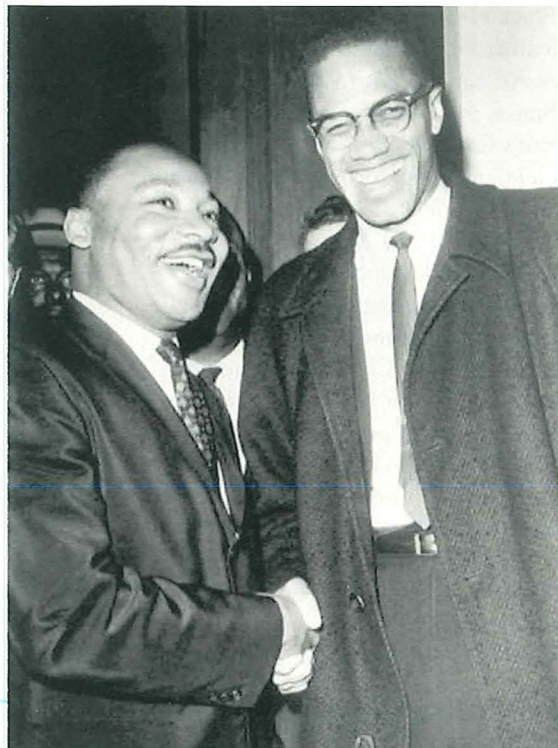
King also said that he knew anger, but not the anger that Malcolm experienced. "It's a different kind of anger," King said. "One that makes you want to keep loving, keep believing."

The two men discussed their families and their youthful aspirations. Malcolm had wanted to be a lawyer, while King had hoped to lead a church. They realized that their accomplishments were far greater than their aspirations, as Malcolm acknowledged King's Nobel Peace Prize and King pointed out that Malcolm had been invited to speak at Harvard.

The play ends with a moment of unity between the two men. "Just think what we could have accomplished if we had just joined hands and worked together," King said.

"We could have made quite a team," Malcolm said.

The play, presented by the Kuumba Players, starred Jeff Robinson as King, Thomas Grimes as Malcolm X and Wesley Lawrence Taylor as Rashad, Malcolm's bodyguard.



*Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X met only once, briefly, at a news conference.*

Jeff Stetson imagines what a clandestine meeting of the two might have been.

Set in a shabby Harlem hotel room in February 1965, *The Meeting* brought together King, a Baptist minister and champion of non-violent protest, and Malcolm, an advocate of self-defense by any means and a convert to the Muslim faith.

The discussion between King and Malcolm was sprinkled with mentions of historical events that defined the 1960s, including church burnings, sit-ins, freedom marches and Ku Klux Klan attacks. It also

## Congressman Visits Classroom

Congressman Pat Tiberi made an appearance in Allan Cooper's Legislative Process class at Otterbein before winning the Republican primary for the 12th district seat in the United States House of Representatives in March.

Tiberi grew up in Columbus, the son of Italian immigrants. While studying journalism at The Ohio State University, he had the chance to intern with Republican John Kasich, then the 12th district representative from Ohio. Following his internship, Tiberi was asked to take a part-time job, which became full-time following his graduation from OSU.

Tiberi served in the Ohio House of Representatives for eight years before becoming the Republican party choice to replace Kasich, who served in the U.S. House of Representatives for 18 years.

During his visit to Otterbein, Tiberi fielded questions from Otterbein students on a variety of subjects, including term limits, campaign finance reform, social security reform, tax reform and educational reform. He discussed concepts for reform, such as immediate disclosure of campaign finances, the elimination of the "marriage penalty" in the tax system and the creation of school vouchers



to give students in failing schools the opportunity to attend private schools.

Tiberi's main goal as a congressman is to return governmental power to the people. "Many of the decision-makers in Washington don't know the specifics of problems on local levels. I want to make Washington D.C. less powerful in our lives and return power to the local governments."

### **Alumna Brings B.R.A.D. Message to Campus**

On Feb. 17, Otterbein alumna Cindy Phalor McCue '75 delivered a strong message to Otterbein students on behalf of her late son, Brad: Be Responsible About Drinking.

Cindy's son, Bradley McCue, was a student at Michigan State University when he died on Nov. 5, 1998, after celebrating his 21st birthday with his friends. He was taking part in a growing ritual of college students — "drink your age in shots."

As a result of their son's death, Cindy and her husband John founded the Be Responsible About Drinking (B.R.A.D.) Foundation. The Foundation educates high school and college students and their parents about the effects and consequences of alcohol use and abuse through educational presentations and materials, a website ([www.BRAD21.org](http://www.BRAD21.org)), and a birthday card program. The birthday card program provides young adults turning 21 with a reminder to celebrate responsibly. A growing list of colleges and universities is distributing these cards. They can also be ordered personally on the website.

During her discussion with Otterbein students, Cindy covered the alcohol-related topics of health, sexual assault, law violations, impaired decision-making skills, "celebration drinking," and alcohol poisoning. She also discussed alcohol levels, peer pressure and the differences between blacking out, passing out and "sleeping it off."

Carlye Grissinger '99 followed Cindy's presentation with some local statistics on sexual assault.

The event was sponsored by Zeta Phi fraternity with the help of the Binge Drinking Prevention Coalition.

## Otterbein to Stage Premiere of Broadway-Bound Play

Otterbein College Theatre has added *Ginger*, the Broadway-bound developmental musical about the life of Hollywood starlet Ginger Rogers to its regular season schedule. The musical will run May 26-28 and June 1, 2 and 4 in Cowan Hall.

Audiences in Columbus will have the chance to see Donna McKechnie, Tony-award winning actress for *A Chorus Line*, playing Ginger Rogers' mother and Randy Skinner, Tony-nominated choreographer of *State Fair*, playing Fred Astaire. The two veterans will perform beside Otterbein College students in the first developmental stage of a Broadway musical. Never before staged, *Ginger* will be done with minimal scenery, but full



choreography and music, and audiences will be invited to give feedback to the creative team. Otterbein College Theatre was selected as the site for this project because of its extensive experience in producing new plays and its national reputation for training outstanding musical theatre performers.

The addition of *Ginger* will replace the scheduled seventh commissioned play *Longevity Abbreviated: for Those Who Don't Have Time* by Carter Lewis '73, which will be performed as the first play of the summer season, opening June 22.

Tickets for *Ginger* can be reserved by calling the Otterbein College box office at (614) 823-1109. The box office is open on weekdays beginning May 15 and one hour prior to performances.

Ginger Rogers introduced some of the most important songs in American musical theatre, performing songs written for her by Gershwin and others, including many songs from the popular musical *Crazy for You*. Born in 1911, Ginger began entertaining at age 14 with appearances in Vaudeville and Broadway performances before making her Hollywood debut in 1931. She performed in many musicals throughout the 1930s and '40s that set standards for American musical theatre. She also showed her talent in dramatic roles, earning the 1940 Best Actress Oscar for her performance in *Kitty Foyle*. She appeared regularly in films through the late 1950s and returned to the spotlight in 1965, performing the lead role in the hit Broadway musical *Hello, Dolly!* before taking *Mame* to London for a successful 14-month engagement, including a command performance for the Queen.

The musical *Ginger* is based on the autobiography *Ginger – My Story*, written by Ginger Rogers. The story was adapted for stage by Paul Becker, a close personal friend of Ginger Rogers, and Robert Kennedy, Ginger's personal manager for the last 15 years of her life. It features music by Irving Berlin, Con Conrad, Vernon Duke, George Gershwin, Irving Kaha, Harry Revel, Ginger Rogers, Harry Warren and Vincent Youmans. It also features lyrics by Irving Berlin, Al Dubin, Vernon Duke, Edward Eliscu, Sammy Fain, Ira Gershwin, Mack Gordon, Gus Kahn, Herb Magidson and Ginger Rogers.

For more information about the production, call (614) 823-1209.



# Otterbein to Build New Commons

Otterbein has announced plans to build new Commons apartments on campus. The College began looking at the possibility of new apartments following the success of the Commons apartments, which were built in 1995.

Vice President for Student Affairs Bob Gatti said the demand for new apartments is high. "The Commons have been so successful that we have a long waiting list. We've conducted studies and surveys and there will be no problem finding students to fill new apartments."

According to a survey of 139 juniors and seniors during the 1999 registration, 65 percent indicated an interest in building additional Commons, 38 percent said they had tried to be housed in the Commons but could not get in and 30 percent said they did not attempt to apply for the

Commons because of the difficulty getting in.

Students already housed in the Commons also consider it a desirable place to live. In the past two years, over half of the residents renewed their leases. Because of this high rate of renewals, many applicants to the Commons are not accepted. In 1999, only 24 percent of the groups who applied to live in the Commons were housed.

Along with the high demand for these apartments, Otterbein is trying to maintain an above 50 percent residential campus. With increasing admission numbers, the College needs additional housing to accomplish this.

"The students are extremely enthused about the new apartment building," Gatti said. "I think it will increase the number of upperclass

students living on campus and ease anxiety about getting placed in an apartment."

The new Commons apartments will house 89 juniors and seniors at Otterbein. The design is similar to that of the original Commons, which were designed by Maddox NBD, with minor alterations. "The new building will have a seminar computer lab and a common area," Gatti said.

Otterbein plans to break ground in May 2000 and complete construction by June 15, 2001. The new Commons will be located at the current site of the tennis courts, northeast of the Campus Center. The tennis courts will be relocated to the current location of the practice soccer field and increased in number from four to six. The practice soccer field will be relocated to College-owned property on Africa Road.

## C L A S S N O T E S

compiled by Sandy Ritchie

### Alumni, Please Note:

There is roughly a 2-month gap between deadline for Classnotes and the actual publication of the magazine. If your submission was done in the last two months, you may not see it until the next issue. All information posted on Otterbein's Online Alumni Site will be included in Towers, but there may be some delay. We appreciate your understanding of our deadlines. To visit Otterbein's Online Alumni Site, go to [www.Otterbein.edu](http://www.Otterbein.edu) and click on alumni. Email: [PKessler@Otterbein.edu](mailto:PKessler@Otterbein.edu)

### 1933

**Roy Bowen** was honored to have the Ohio State Theatre (previously Stadium Theatre) named for him.

### 1934

**Sarah Truxal Wisleder** and husband Dean recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with a family dinner at the Springfield Hilton. They are the parents of four children and have eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

### 1944

**Albert Bartlett** observed the 30th anniversary of the first time he gave his talk, "Arithmetic, Population and Energy" in September, 1999. He has given the talk 1,325 times in 48 states, Canada and overseas and is currently giving it about 45 times a year.

### 1948

**Jeanette Elliott Boughan** and her husband Gary celebrated their 50th wedding

anniversary in Dayton, OH. Their children David, Steve, April, Ross and Judy hosted a luncheon for family and friends in their honor. They were married September 4, 1949.

### 1949

**Albert Stoddard** and his wife **Alice Walter Stoddard** '49, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary July 30, 1999. They presently reside in Frewsburg, NY.

### 1951

**Donald Walter** retired for the second time in August, 1999 after four years as a visiting professor at the University of Nevada Las Vegas (UNLV). He put in four courses on Exposition Management. He had previously retired as executive director of the International

Association for Exposition Management in December, 1992.

### 1954

**Rev. James Bloom** will be a guest pastor at the First United Methodist Church, Warren, OH. He served 35 years as a fulltime pastor in the East Ohio Conference, including the First United Methodist Church. He is also an author of several books including his latest, *Living It Up On The Way Out*, a collection of poems, essays, scripture, stories, jokes and prayers about growing older and enjoying it.

**Carole Stover Dougherty** will chair the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Pro Football Hall of Fame Festival Queen Committee. She



has been a member of the committee since 1995, served as vice chairwoman in 1997 and 1998, and was the chairwoman in 1999. She is a past president and a current member of the College Club of Canton and the Canton Junior Woman's Club.

**Richard Madison** retired from the YMCA in 1990. He has been active in raising funds for local YMCA's, and recently assisted the Urbana, OH YMCA in completing a 4 1/2 million dollar campaign to build a new building to serve Champaign County.

### 1956

**Joyce Hickok Cox** retired in 1998 as secretary at William Street UMC, Delaware, OH after 16 years.

### 1957

**John Magaw** has resigned as head of the Treasury Department's Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington, D.C. as of December 31, 1999. He was involved in several high profile investigations including the Oklahoma City bombing, the crash of TWA Flight 800 and the bombing at the 1996 Olympics. He started his law-enforcement career as a trooper with the State Highway Patrol in Columbus, OH.

### 1958

**Richard Myers** retired from the Detroit Conference of UMC in the summer of 1998. Presently living in Gaylord, MI - Snow Country. He continues to be active on the Board of the Whitefish Point Bird Observatory and leads volunteers on mission trips to Costa Rica.

**Janice Ellenberger Schroeder** retired June, 1996 from Newport-Mesa School District in Costa Mesa, CA. She taught 8th grade language arts for

38 years. Named to Who's Who Among America's Teachers (student nominated) in the first five editions from 1990 to 1998.

### 1959

**Diane Daily Cox** retired in 1998 from teaching after 41 years. The last 28 years have been with the Delaware City Schools, >>> to page 14

## PROFILE

### Well-Travelled Musical Alumna Returns Home to Otterbein

**Noyuri Flora Ariga '52** has taken her music to destinations throughout the world, and this quarter she brings her international music experience to the students of Otterbein. Ariga is serving as a visiting professor of piano and harpsichord.

Ariga enjoys the challenge. "I hope to find and develop the abilities of each student," she said. "I want each student to have their own character."

Ariga first came to Otterbein in 1949. She had graduated in 1948 from Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts in Kyoto, Japan, where she studied English. Influenced by her American missionary piano teacher, Frances Clapp, Ariga took a teaching position at an American school in Kyoto before receiving a full United Brethren scholarship to study piano at Otterbein.

Ariga enjoyed her time at Otterbein, despite the hardships her country was facing following its defeat in World War II. "I had nice, affectionate teachers. They took a personal interest in me and cared for me even though I was from the defeated country," she said. "There was no antagonism. I felt like I was at home."

While she enjoyed studying at Otterbein, she felt some guilt for her situation. "Life in Japan was hard and many people had no heating, but I was very comfortable at Otterbein," she said. "I sympathized with my people and sometimes I felt too fortunate."

After graduating from Otterbein, Ariga earned her Master's of Music from Northwestern University and studied church music at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Completing her studies in the United States, Ariga returned to Japan. In 1960, she was offered a fellowship from the Humboldt Foundation in West Germany to study at the State Conservatory of Music in Freiburg. For three years, she studied with renowned pianist Edith Picht-Axenfeld and harpsichordist Fritz Neumeyer. When she returned to home in 1963, she introduced the harpsichord to Japan, becoming a musical pioneer in her homeland.

In the Fall of 1989, Ariga returned to Otterbein as a visiting professor. She was invited by Lyle Barkhymer, who met Ariga while he was on sabbatical in Japan.

Following her return to Otterbein, Ariga went on sabbatical in Basel, Switzerland, adding that country to a growing list of international credits. Throughout her career in music, Ariga has held solo performances in Japan, the U.S., Germany, Belgium and Canada. She has also performed with such musicians as Hans-Martin Linde, James Galway and members of the Kyoto, Osaka and Berlin Philharmonics.

Ariga says cultural differences are easy to overcome in music. "Music teaching is universal. There are no barriers. I will be sharing music with my students, like American teachers do."

Ariga belongs to several professional organizations, including the Musicology Society of Japan, the Kyoto Musicians' Club, the College Music Society (United States) and the West Japan Branch of The Frederic Chopin Society of Japan. She also stays close to her alma mater as the president of the Otterbein College Japan Alumni Group and the coordinator of fundraising for the Lillian Frank International Student Award.





## Alumnus Works to Deter Hate Crimes

Dear Editor Routson:

While watching two TV monitors in the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency's "Emergency Operation Center" on New Year's Eve, I realized how divided the perceptions are in our nation. One screen showed the 25 hours of "celebration" worldwide including the Eiffel Tower light show and the throngs gathered in Time Squares.

At the same time, I was in a building, under strict armed security, along with 175 others, monitoring the second screen, which related to incidents of possible Y2K glitches and more sobering possible terrorist activities, including use of "weapons of mass destruction" (WMD). And since New Year's Eve is a time for self-reflection, I found myself in the wee hours of the morning, trying to figure how a pre-ministerial student from the class of 1958 came to greet the year 2000 under such strange circumstances.

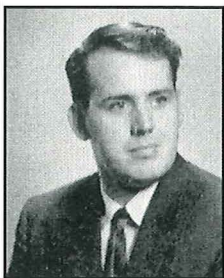
But in retrospect it was very clear that my days at Otterbein, besides providing a sound academic basis, led me to my seat in the EOC, dealing with a threat on the monitor of a possible firebombing of a black church or a white supremacist uprising. It was at Otterbein and in my Fraternity (Kings) that I had such extensive exposure to two factors which dominate my work: one, racial and cultural diversity; and two, the opposition to such diversity.

Although I had attended an integrated high school, it was not until Otterbein that I was exposed to a classmate from Greece who made great Italian pasta, another who was a Cuban exile and the grandson of a slave.

I also was confronted, rudely, with blatant discrimination and the incipient white supremacist, when I traveled, even in areas of Westerville, with my classmates. I quite willingly, because of my size and my belief that

this was wrong, often found myself as an "escort" where I learned to hone my skills of cultivating dialogue, and when all else failed, physically defending the rights of others. I never imagined even then it would become my life's work.

Seminary led me to operate a vacant church in a black neighborhood as a neighborhood house and then it was a quick five years in the ministry, before my civil rights interest led me into work in civil rights enforcement agencies for the last 34 years, 19 of them as Housing Director of Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC).



*Raymond Cartright  
from the 1958 Sibyl*

In 1972, I assisted in the development of a statewide "Tension Task Force" which continues to this day as the "Inter-Agency Task Force" (IATTF). I started as a charter member and still participate to this day.

The IATTF is made up of federal, state and local agencies, including law enforcement agencies such as the FBI, state police, local police chiefs, as well as representatives of state cabinet offices and advocacy groups. The IATTF monitors tension situations including "hate crime" reports. The members bring the resources of their agencies to address the problems and/or to determine patterns to be addressed by programs of outreach, education, technical assistance or increased enforcement.

One of the interesting aspects of my IATTF work has been the opportunity to participate in cross-training with other agencies. Most recently, I was nominated to attend the FBI Community Partnership Program, which is conducted by three of the larger FBI offices. This program is designed to train a cross-section of state and community leaders over a 16 week period in FBI operations, while promoting dialogue regarding our activities. The purpose is to allow greater flow of information and

increase the resources available to everyone.

Part of the training was very hands on. For example, the lectures on "lethal force policy" and "hostage negotiations" were conducted at a firearms range, where all participants had opportunity to fire the weapons, observe a negotiation and to see the last resort - a SWAT team forced entry.

The final day of training was spent at the FBI Academy in Quantico, VA, where graduation was attended by Louis Freeh, Director of the FBI. The day also had many other practice situations, including a stroll down Hogan's Alley, where in a brief period, I was involved in a store robbery, with hostage, a bank robbery and arresting an embezzler.

Even more heart pounding was FATS - the FBI's Firearms Automated Tracking System, an interactive computer system that allows one to experience the split second nature of the decision to use a firearm when lives, including your own are on the line. Mine was a shootout with a carjacker in a D.C. parking garage. I lived! Because of this and other such activities, I was named the IATTF state liaison to the Counter-Terrorism Taskforces, created in all the regions of our state.

Hence my strange New Year's Eve.

My retrospect that night also led me to understand that both worlds have to co-exist. We must have the ability to enjoy our blessed freedom that the sacrifices of others have made possible. But we also need the vigilance necessary to exercise prudent restraint and caution in insuring that those same freedoms are not abused to harm others.

I want to express my appreciation to Otterbein College for providing me with both the education and the life experiences that prepared me for this. Incidentally, I plan to be at it for a number of years, if able.

*Raymond W. Cartwright '58*



# Who are these guys, anyway?

We received two emails, two letters, and two phone calls about the identity of folks in the Winter 2000 issue of *Towers*. We even seem to have a disagreement on who those boys are in the river! Richard Lincoff '66 called to say that the photo was from October of 1962 and that he was in the photo. However, we also received the following letter:

Dear Friend:

Your guess was off concerning the upper right photo on page 22 of the Winter 2000 *Towers*.

That photo was taken in the Fall of '49. How do I know? The first one being pulled across Alum Creek is yours truly. I remember I was chagrined as I thought we'd easily win. Hope to see you at my 50th this June.

*Dorsey Brause '50*



Photo ID

The unidentified friend in the photo on page 21 is Rodney Bolton '73.

*Thomas Lloyd '74*

Rodney Bolton himself called to say as much, and also that we goofed when we identified the woman in the photo as Lizette Paul Peter '76. She is actually Vici Coleman '73.

The couple shown dancing on page 22 are Eddy Rosen and Clair Jacobsen. Both are 'X49. They were a romantic pairing on campus during Fall of '49 and Spring of '50. They were both very charming, intelligent people. Neither one returned in the Fall of '50. If anyone has a current address for them I would be pleased to have it forwarded to me. Their home was New York City at the time this was taken. *Towers* is getting better. We love to read it and stay in touch.

Go Cardinals

*Bill '51 and Patricia Peterson Shanahan '51*



*Sorry for the gaffe and thanks to all who took the time to let us know they saw someone they knew!*

Gentlemen,

I really enjoyed the Winter 2000 issue of *Towers*. The picture on page 23 caught my eye. The girl right-center, with long hair and wearing knee socks appears to be Beth Hassenpflug '79.  
*Kurt Helmig '77*





Compiled by Ed Syguda

# Men's Basketball Claim Share of OAC Title

Otterbein head men's basketball coach Dick Reynolds hit another milestone, becoming the first coach in the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) to win conference championships in four different decades.

Reynolds, who is the OAC all-time coaching leader with 488 wins over 28 seasons, took the Cardinals to a share of the regular-season title and into the championship game of the OAC Tournament. Reynolds has led teams to ten OAC titles over the 70's, 80's, 90's and 00's.

Paced by the play from first team All-OAC picks Jason Dutcher, a senior post from Columbus, and Jeff Gibbs, a sophomore post from Columbus, the Cardinals, 18-9 overall, shared the regular-season title with Ohio Northern, each 11-5 in league play.

Otterbein, playing without Gibbs, who was injured, opened the season slowly, losing three of its first four games. Gibbs returned to the lineup by game five, and Otterbein won ten of its next 12, entering the month of February alone atop the OAC standings at 9-2.

The squad, however, suffered a trio of heart-breaking OAC losses—two by two points each and one by four points—over the final three weeks of conference play, allowing Ohio Northern to capture a share of the OAC title and the top seed in the OAC Tournament.

Otterbein defeated Heidelberg, 89-81, in the quarterfinals and John Carroll, 82-77, in the semifinals before losing to host Ohio Northern, 78-69, in the championship game of the conference tournament.

Dutcher led Otterbein in scoring, 17.9 points a game, and averaged 9.7 boards. The four-year starter finishes his career with 1,485 points and 853 rebounds. He ranks eighth on the Otterbein career scoring list.

Three other Cardinal players earned honorable mention All-OAC honors: Scott Elliott, a junior wing from Sunbury, Ohio, Pat Noles, a

junior guard from Bexley, Ohio, and Trevor Younkin, a senior post from Ashville, Ohio.

## Gibbs Selected OAC Player of the Year

Sophomore standout Jeff Gibbs was selected by the league's coaches to receive the Mike Gregory Award, presented to the "Player of the Year" in the Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC).

The 6-2-1/2 post led NCAA Division III in rebounding, 13.3 boards a game, and ranked sixth in blocked shots (2.7 a game) and 12th in field-goal percentage (61.4). He averaged 16.8 points a game. Gibbs racked up 20 double-doubles in 23 games.

Gibbs just missed out on second team All-America honors. He received the third most votes on his way to being named to the first team All-Great Lakes by the National Association of Basketball Coaches and Oldsmobile.



Jeff Gibbs, who led the NCAA Division III with 13.3 rebounds per game, was named OAC Player of the Year.

"His ability to score, block and rebound shots is uncanny," says Otterbein head coach Dick Reynolds.

He tallied career highs for points, 30, and rebounds, 20, against Muskingum Feb. 19. He blocked tournament record six shots against John Carroll in the OAC Tournament semifinals Feb. 25.

The multi-talented athlete excels on the football field as well. He earned second team All-OAC honors at tight end, making 31 receptions for 586 yards and ten touchdowns in 1999.

Gibbs becomes the sixth player from Otterbein to earn the Mike Gregory Award. Previous Cardinals to receive the award include Nick Gutman (1994), James Bradley (1991), Dick Hempy (1986 and 1987), Ron Stewart (1983) and Don Carlos (1966 and 1967).

The award was established in 1957 in honor of Mike Gregory, who was a multi-sport standout at Denison University in the late 20's.

## Women's Basketball Shares Third in the OAC

The Otterbein women's basketball team, under ninth-year head coach Connie Richardson, opened strong, but cooled off over the final two weeks of the season.

The Cardinals, 14-11 overall, finished with a share of third place with Mount Union, each 8-8 in the OAC.

The squad, led by second team All-OAC selection Kara Grishkat, a junior point guard from Pickerington, Ohio, won its first four games and carried a 9-3 record into the second week of January.

Following a pair of road losses at nationally-ranked Baldwin-Wallace and Capital, who finished one, two, respectively, in the OAC, the Cardinals reeled off five wins over their next six outings to move to 14-6 by the first week of February. Then the bottom dropped. Otterbein lost its final four games of the regular season, and fell to



Heidelberg in the quarterfinals of the OAC Tournament.

Grishkat, the second-leading playmaker in the OAC, finished with 148 assists to become the Otterbein career leader with 420. She averaged ten points a game.

Forward Sarah Kuhner, a senior from Pickerington, led the Cardinals in scoring, 11.7 points an outing, and was named honorable mention All-OAC.

## Otterbein Women Win Two at OAC Indoor Championships

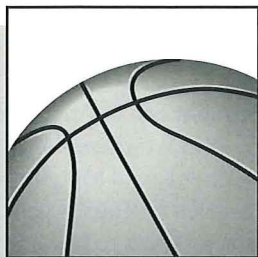
Brianna Elmore and Misty Spring took home individual titles from the OAC Indoor Track and Field Championships held March 3-4 at Baldwin-Wallace College.

Elmore, a junior from Nevada, Ohio, won the 1000m (3:09.35), and Spring, a freshman from Delaware, Ohio, the 400m in a school-record time of 59.63.

Otterbein scored 47 points to finish fourth in the seven-team field.

On the men's side, Andy Johnson, a senior from Greenfield, Ohio, placed second in the high jump with a leap of 6-8-1/4. Johnson, an All-America, placed ninth in the high jump (6-6) at the NCAA Division III Indoor Track & Field Championships.

The Otterbein men finished fifth with 53 points at the conference championships.



# Inside the "O"

News from the "O" Club

## "O" Club Hosts 20th Annual Basketball Tourney

The "O" Club honored the memory of the late Dwight C. "Smokey" Ballenger '39, and showed its appreciation to his family for their support, by renaming the annual basketball tournament in Smokey's name. Smokey, a lifelong ambassador for Otterbein College athletics, was the longest-serving "O" Club president and one of the original forces behind this annual tournament.

Eight collegiate teams competed in the tournament held December 27-28 in the Rike Center (this was the second year for the women's tournament). The Otterbein women's team won their second tournament championship and the Otterbein men's team placed second in the championship game.

In order to attract city youth and local basketball fans, the tournament was promoted as a community event. Admission was free with a donation of a food item or nominal cash donation to Paul's Pantry, a local food bank serving needy families in the Westerville City school district. Over 20 large boxes of food and more than \$700 in cash was collected during the two-day tournament. In addition, 16 youth teams from Westerville's Parks and Recreation Dept. Bantam League and St. Paul's Church leagues participated in half-time games.



Seated on floor - Alex Wieland, Norm & Kipp Nolder, Brent Ballenger. Seated on couch- Bernie & Lee Wieland, Betty Ballenger, Abbey & Barbie Nolder; Marianne Ballenger. Standing - Troy & David Ballenger.

The "O" Club wishes to express its appreciation to the many volunteers, Rike workers, and donors who contributed to this successful tournament.

## Mark Your Calendars

Sun., Oct. 8 - Annual Cookout

Mon., Oct. 9 - Annual Golf Outing

Sat., Oct. 21 - Homecoming

Wed., & Thurs., Dec. 27-28 - Ballenger

"O" Club Classic



## A Fond Farewell to Rudy Owen

Rudy Owen, the second recipient of the Athletic Director's Award of Distinction, is shown standing between former managers Chris Carlisle '80 and Carl Dufford '77 at last year's homecoming. Initiated in 1998, the award recognizes the unique contributions of individuals to Otterbein's athletic programs.

Robert "Moe" Agler hired Owen in 1960 and he remained a full-time employee until 1987. Officially, his title was athletic trainer but his inclination, work ethic and talent gave him a much broader work spectrum. From repainting the football locker floor each year, to taping ankles, to washing uniforms, Owen's pride and workmanship touched every facet of Otterbein athletics. His enthusiasm for athletics and his likable personality made him a favorite among student-athletes and coaches - and every one of them has a "Rudy story." Owen died February 25.

The "O" Club: 614-823-3555  
oclub@otterbein.edu



>>> from page 9

Delaware, OH, teaching fifth graders.

### 1960

#### **Janet Christy Chamberlin**

retired from teaching Spanish & French at Bowling Green High School, Bowling Green, OH in June, 1999.

#### **Jeaninne Kleck Lovgren**

has retired from 33 years of elementary school teaching. The last 29 years were in the public schools of Omaha, NE. Jeaninne and her husband Tom have four grown sons. They live just a couple of blocks from the site of baseball's College World Series which "is always a lot of fun!"

**Emery F. Wach** recently retired from Sikorsky Aircraft.

### 1961

#### **Bernice Glor Pagliaro**

retired from the Athletic Department at the University of California Santa Barbara, on October 31, 1999. She is pursuing her passion for the antiques and collectibles field. As part owner of an Antiques Mall in Golita, CA and keeping four dealer spaces well stocked, she is keeping busy and challenged.

### 1962

**Dean Beechy** retired June, 1984 as a Major, USAF RES. from the 758th T.A.S., greater Pittsburgh Airport with 20 years of service. He retired August, 1998 from Ametek March Electric, Cambridge, OH with over 25 years as Industrial Engineer and Manufacturing Supervisor.

### 1963

#### **Judith Mack Salyer**

retired from teaching gifted education at Teays Valley Local Schools. She presently has six grandchildren with two more due in December and June.

### 1966

**Dale Creamer** has again been chosen to serve on the Ohio High School Athletic Associations Board of Control. He represents all high schools in the southwestern part of the state of Ohio. Likewise, he serves as the President of the Southwest District Athletic Board.

### 1967

**Linda Bixby** is now teaching Spanish at Ohio Dominican College and supervises student teachers for Otterbein.

**MacCanon Brown** (formerly Marilyn MacCanon) has been given the "2000 In the Spirit of St. Pius" award for her work with Milwaukee's homeless. Brown is the executive director of the organization named Repairers of the Breach.

### 1968

**Steve Lorton**, a writer for *Sunset* magazine, is now the Northwest bureau chief for the magazine. He appears on KRON-NBC television in Los Angeles three times a week. He was named Distinguished Alumni in 1994 by Otterbein College and has been awarded a life membership in the Town and County 4-H Club in Shelby County. He is also the founder of the Street Advisory Board in Seattle, WA and is a member of the board of

the Washington Park Arboretum.

### 1969

**Judith Wells Baker** has been appointed the Manager of the Case Management Section of Doctors Hospital in Columbus, OH.

**Carol Roe Smith** retired in June, 1999 after 30 years of teaching in the Columbus Public Schools and Walnut Ridge High School. She is actively working on the lifestyle of a retired person and looking for some mini-career to get through the cold winters. She is looking for Otters to play golf with.

#### **Nancy Arnold Wright**

retired in June, 1999 from teaching 30 years in the Kettering School District, Dayton, OH.

### 1971

**Harriet Zech Hunter** is presently a graduate student at the University of Rhode Island in their Family Nurse Practitioner program. She will complete the program May, 2000.

### 1972

**E. Keith Witt** has recently retired from the US Air Force after a 26-year career. He is now the director of Strategic Planning for the Spaceport Florida Authority. The Spaceport Authority currently operates two launch complexes at the Cape Canaveral Spaceport and provides other infrastructure and support services to commercial and government programs at the spaceport and at other locations around the state. Keith and his wife **Diane**

**Savage Witt '72** reside in Melbourne, FL. Two of their children are now attending Otterbein; Christine '00 and Laura '03.

**Michael Ziegler** has recently published a workbook, *Doing Physics with Spreadsheets*, by Prentice Hall.

### 1973

**Pamela Erb** just returned from India where she & partner David Melville traveled for three weeks. She was sent to India by Communispond, Inc. for whom she delivers presentation skills, sales skills and business writing training to corporate executives throughout the world. Back in New York, her guide service company, Bravo New York, has had a great year.

**Patrice Perry Kelly** is on the faculty of Montgomery College in Rockville, MD working in a new program to help students develop the reading and writing skills necessary for success in college.

### 1974

**Barbara Jo Hoffman** has recently become a certified athletic administrator at Harrison Central, Cadiz, OH. There are just 1600 CAA's in the entire nation. In 1987 she earned her master's degree from Ashland University, Ashland, OH. She has taught in the Harrison Hills School District since 1974. She served as OVAC Class AA-A golf tournament director in 1998 and was the OVAC Volleyball tournament director this past season



and will be again in 2000.

## 1975

**Gregory Landis** has become a certified cardiac, thoracic and vascular surgeon. He co-founded a new cardiac surgery program at Sparrow Hospital, Lansing, MI in 1994. He remarried in 1992 to Debra. They have five children: Robert 24, Carry 20, Dana 18, Drew 11 and Christopher 7. Greg's brother, **Jeffrey S. Landis '76**, passed away in 1990 from complications of multiple sclerosis at the age of 35.

**Gene K. Paul** has been named principal of Demmitt Elementary, Vandalia, OH.

**Val Francis** has recently been elected by the Pike Community Hospital Board of Trustees as a new member to the Board. He is also active with the Waverly Youth League and is chairman of the Business and Facilities Advisory Committee for the Waverly City Schools, Waverly, OH.

**Mary Alice Hard Whitehead** has completed a second Masters degree in Guidance Counseling at OSU and is employed by Columbus Public Schools as a High School Counselor at Beechcroft High School.

## 1976

**E. Jane Carter** has taken a new job at Cloverbrook Healthcare Pavilion as the Director of Social Services.

**David Mead** has been named chief financial officer of Capital Bank in Toledo, OH. David, **Robin Sando '77** and

their two children reside in Perrysburg, OH.

**Carol A. Ventresca** has received the "Service

to the Association Award" from the Ohio Continuing Higher Education Association (OCHEA) during its

annual conference, March, 1999 in Cincinnati, OH. She served on the OCHEA board, and also served as president of

## P R O F I L E

### *Community Service a Way of Life for this '83 Alumna*

**W**anda Dillard '83 has made it her mission to give back to her community, through her career and her private life.

Wanda, a self-proclaimed "product of Columbus schools," came to Otterbein after serving in the military for five years. She enjoyed the close-knit family environment at Otterbein, and she felt challenged by the Life Sciences program. This gave her a solid foundation for her future career.

After graduating from Otterbein, Wanda began working at Riverside Hospital while earning her master's degree in Health Administration from Central Michigan University. When she finished her degree, Wanda became the director of Minority Health Initiatives at Riverside.

In that position, Wanda worked with many minority organizations in Columbus to develop a strong outreach program. "I worked with the Native American Indian Center, the Ohio Hispanic Coalition and Asian Community Services."

Wanda also worked with the Columbus chapter of the Black Women's Health Project, of which she is a founding member. The Project looks at ways to deal with health disparity issues of African American women in the Columbus area. One of its programs is the Walking for Wellness program for the prevention of heart disease.

Wanda eventually left Riverside to become the director of Community Development at The Ohio State University Medical Center. "Ohio State actually approached me to develop an outreach program and improve access to medical services," she said. "It was a good opportunity to create programs and work in unique partnerships, like with Catholic Social Services."

Outside of work, Wanda stays active in service organizations. She is a member of the Livingston Avenue Collaborative Board, which recently received money from the Columbus Medical Association to establish a Health and Human Resource Center in the Livingston Avenue area. "The center will employ members of the community to link others in the community with the health system," she said. "We also plan to establish a health resource library. If it is successful, we want to duplicate it in other communities."

Wanda is also a member of the Franklin County Dental Task Force and the Infant Mortality Task Force. Wanda believes that community service is about helping one person at a time. "I enjoy seeing us make a difference, even if we are only helping one person with a problem," she said. "There are so many needs that most people don't see."

Community service has been a way of life for Wanda since childhood. "My mother is a loving, kind, strong black woman who taught me to give back to my community," she said. "My mother always goes out of her way for people, feeding stray dog, cats and even people. She would even buy baby clothes for mothers in need."

The community has taken notice of Wanda's efforts, and she has been given several awards for her service. She received a community service award from the Columbus Urban League, the Outstanding Alumni Service Award from Otterbein's Office of Ethnic Diversity, and the Women Making a Difference Award from the Ohio Department of Health.

When she is not too busy with her many organizations, Wanda tries to pass what she has learned on to others. "My advice to young folks is to get an education, but never forget where you came from. Go back to your community and give back, even if that only means tutoring. You have to invest in youth to create successful adults."





the association from 1997-98. She is currently the associate director of Credit Programs for the Office of Continuing Education at The Ohio State University.

**1977**

**Dan Hawk** has been promoted to professor of Old Testament and Hebrew and granted tenure at Ashland Theological Seminary. He spent the summer of 1999, along with his family, at Cambridge University.

**Kurt Helmig** has recently been promoted to administrative support assistant with the U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service, Cicero, IL. He has been with INS since 1991.

**1978**

**Jeannine Ruble Markgraf** has been teaching for Madison Local Schools for twenty years. She is on the Intervention Action Team and co-advisor of the Math Club, and currently teaches fifth grade. She and husband Larry have three children; Janelle 14, Carolyn 11 and Kyle 7.

**Rebecca Coleman Princehorn**, a partner with Bricker & Eckler LLP, is the author of the 2000 Cumulative Service & Replacement Units to "Baldwin's Ohio Township Law", a reference tool for locating current primary materials in township law.

**1983**

**Jackie Cave Congrove** is a kindergarten teacher in Circleville City Schools, Circleville, OH. She also is the organist for Salem United Methodist Church.

**Gary Farkas** is a controller at AGT International in Columbus, OH.

**1984**

**Melanie Miles** is an adjunct theatre instructor at Lenore-Rhein College in Hickory, N.C. She has recently opened a costume design studio in Winston-Salem, NC.

**1986**

**Roben Frentzel** received National Board Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

**1987**

**Carol Simmons Hribar** is a member of the first

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## PROFILE

### *Lifelong Learner Looks to be Good Role Model*

**A**fter studying Public Relations at Otterbein and working in banking for a year, **Rhonda Talford Knight '96** has finally found her calling in the field of education. Rhonda began her college career at The Ohio State University. It was during her time at OSU that she met her husband, Damon Knight '95, who was an Otterbein student at the time. With Damon, Rhonda began spending time on Otterbein's



campus, participating in activities and attending events.

This exposure to the College fueled Rhonda's decision to transfer from OSU to Otterbein. "I enjoyed the atmosphere of the close-knit community," she said. "So I looked into the Public Relations program and eventually transferred."

While at Otterbein, Rhonda was very involved on campus. "I was in the African American Student Union and Alpha Kappa Alpha. I was even the editor for the AASU newsletter, Harambee," she said. "I also remember talking and listening to music at the House of Black Culture. I made some lasting relationships at Otterbein."

Rhonda was also impressed with the personal academic attention she received at Otterbein. "Denise Shively was a great professor, and so was John Ludlum. Denise wrote a recommendation for me, and they were both very supportive," she said. "I felt like people cared about my education."

After graduating from Otterbein, Rhonda worked in banking before making a major career change. "I realized education was my calling, so I went back to school to get my M.Ed. from The Ohio State University in August of 1999. Now I am in my second year with Columbus Public Schools, but my first year in the classroom."

Damon supported Rhonda's decision to change careers. "He knew it was right for me," she said. "Now I am more satisfied than I ever could be."

Rhonda's enthusiasm for her job makes a real difference in the classroom. "I love my job, so I give 110 percent, and I have been referred to as 'someone who's doing things well in the classroom.'"

Rhonda currently teaches seventh grade at Linmoor Middle School in Columbus, one of two schools in the United States piloting the Success for All cooperative learning program. Linmoor is linked to Otterbein through the Linmoor Scholars Program, a mentoring program that brings Linmoor students to campus one Saturday each month. Established five years ago, the program was designed to help these students see what college is like and to give them role models to look up to.

As a teacher, Rhonda tries to be a good role model. "If you are around children for extended periods of time, they will look up to you no matter what because children do what they see," she said. "The challenge is to step up to the plate and be a good role model."

"I feel I am a role model to African American students because I am in the community eye, so I provide them with someone to see," Rhonda said. "I think I show them that this is how it can happen for them, if not even better."

Rhonda has plans to pursue her Ph.D. at OSU, possibly in Education Administration. "I am a lifelong learner. I think education is a constant process."

With her Ph.D., Rhonda hopes to make a positive impact on the field of education. "I want to share what I learn and not be confined to one thing. I would be happy teaching a classroom of students one day and a classroom of teachers the next."





CAMPUS CENTER



# An Emerging Diversity

**Who's in?** Prospective students gather in front of the Campus Center at a recent Student of Color Visitation Day.

by Roger Routson

In 1854, just seven years after Otterbein's founding, the Board of Trustees passed a resolution for Otterbein to "secure some colored students to be educated at the college." Five years later, Otterbein admitted a "colored" man. That's the good news.



*"If we don't have a diverse student population, we are short-changing our students. I've heard that by 2010 or 2020, one in every three persons in the U.S. will be a person of color. If that's the case, how are we preparing our students to go out in the world? If we don't have a diverse student population, we are doing them an injustice."*

Jeanne Talley

Associate Director of Admission

The bad news is the man admitted to Otterbein was William Hannibal Thomas, a man later dubbed "the Black Judas" and denounced by such prominent historical African Americans as Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, and W.E.B. DuBois. The cause for this condemnation was Thomas's book, *The American Negro*, in which he declared blacks to be "the waste product of American civilization" and recommended whippings and castration for black criminals.

There's more bad news. Thomas's presence at the College, according to Daniel Hurley in *Otterbein College: Affirming Our Past, Shaping Our Future*, "divided Otterbein so badly that many feared violence." According to Hurley, some faculty and trustees offered to help pay Thomas's expenses if he withdrew and transferred to Oberlin College. Thomas did indeed withdraw at the end of his first 10-week term. Some cited emotional stress and financial concern, while others said it was due to physical abuse.



*"If Otterbein wants to continue to be a great college, then it's going to have to deal with issues of diversity. Our campus is becoming more and more diverse everyday. Our numbers of students of color are constantly on the rise. That's not going to stop unless we decide to become a campus that's not welcoming. And that's not going to happen. The goal is to create a global village here on campus, where there is representation of all kinds of places and people. And when you create that global village, you create a situation where people become excited about learning."*

Darryl Peal

Assistant Dean of Student Life,  
Coordinator of Ethnic Diversity





*"We need to get better at risk-taking. We need to get better at not being so fearful, being open to conversation and programming that includes all sorts of diversity issues. We need to get better at addressing issues, and not the surface stuff. Otterbein's pretty good at doing the food, folks, and fun, but if it's a critical issue where some racial kinds of tension might exist—but still an issue where resolution might come out of it—people tend to shy away from it. We need to be better at confronting issues and getting our feet dirty."*

Beth Smith  
Associate Professor  
of Education

Otterbein's first experience with ethnic diversity was not a good one.

Of course, we can proudly point to other things in Otterbein's history. There were the Hanbys' commitment to the anti-slavery movement and their involvement in the underground railroad. And William Henry Fouse was not only Otterbein's first African American graduate in 1893, he was also the first African American to receive an honorary doctorate from

the College. Fouse went on to a distinguished career in Education. But as the William Hannibal Thomas story shows, we need to be careful that we don't gloss over all the mud beneath our shoes. We need to assess ourselves honestly. In 1988, just twelve years ago and some 134 years after the 1854 resolution, our student of color percentage at Otterbein was 3 percent. That's not exactly what you'd call an integrated campus. For 1999, that number had grown to 9.5 percent. Every year between 1988 and 1999, the number grew a little bit. Also, 43 different countries are represented by current Otterbein students—either by international students, or those students who were foreign born but then became U.S. citizens.

We are getting there. Growth is slow, but it is also steady.

### Diversity is Needed

Almost everyone at this point is in agreement that a more diversified campus is needed, is a good thing. Part of that, beyond being morally and ethically right, is properly preparing our students with an effective liberal arts education to go out and make their way in the world. Jeanne Talley, associate director of Admission, who many would point to as a driving force behind those growing numbers, says, "If we don't have a diverse student population, we are shortchanging our students. I've heard that by 2010 or 2020, one in every three persons in the U.S. will be a person of color. If that's the case, how are we preparing our students to go out in the world? Without a diverse

student population, we are doing them an injustice."

Diversity only makes sense from a business point of view as well. Says Sam Ramirez, director of Human Resources, "Demographics are changing. National



*"We have a student of color orientation. That isn't a substitute, nor are we segregating those students, from our regular orientation. However, the student of color population has some unique needs, and we need to talk about them. We've been having unique orientations for other populations, such as transfer students, commuter students, certain majors, etc. Our students of color need to understand when they walk into a classroom that they are going to be faced with some unique challenges attending a class in a predominantly white institution. If we don't talk with them about that ahead of time, they may be caught off guard and struggle, and they may not have as good an experience as they can have."*

Bob Gatti  
Vice President for  
Student Affairs

trends are showing larger and larger minority groups and smaller and smaller majority groups."

Along with Talley, another major reason that Otterbein has been able to recruit and—perhaps even more important—retain students of color is Darryl Peal, assistant dean of Student Life and coordinator of Ethnic Diversity. Peal came to the campus in 1993 because he said the job seemed tailor-made for him, and it just wasn't the match-up in degrees and experience requirements. "What really took me over the top in seeing the opportunity," Peal says, "was I remembered being an undergraduate student at Ohio Wesleyan. And I remembered the loneliness, how difficult it was to matriculate. And not academically. Academics was the easy part. It was finding your place and feeling you were a part of campus. Because so many things on campus didn't look like you and wasn't about you. The highest GPA on my floor won a week's worth of visits to a tanning bed....When I saw the ad for the position here at Otterbein, I kind of had a flashback on my own college experience. And I said, if I can make a difference for students attending a small college, if I can break through that isolation and help them feel more a part of campus, that's something I'd really like to do."

And it was a newly created position. "I had the opportunity to create a program that had the flavor I wanted to bring to it," Peal says. The creation of the position was a recommendation from a commission on diversity appointed by President DeVore in 1990. The



study on diversity encompassed five major areas of concern in the enhancement of diversity in higher education: policy and governance, curriculum and teaching, student recruitment and retention, student life and campus climate, and faculty recruitment and retention. The commission did an extensive audit of all aspects of Otterbein,

Included in the many programs that Peal has either implemented or fostered are the House of Black Culture, Black Baccalaureate, *Harambee Newsletter* (an annual publication highlighting achievements and activities of students of color), the Black and Latino Leadership conference, the Martin Luther King candlelight vigil, and other social events and ice-breakers. (See the story starting on page 21 about the various activities and programs offered by the College.)

And when it comes to diversity, Otterbein is doing some things very well. Almost everyone interviewed mentioned the caring faculty and nurturing learning environment that exists at Otterbein.

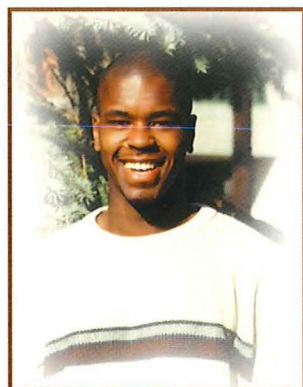
Peal says, "There are so many things I love about Otterbein, as far as professors being willing to work with me. I think we have a faculty who care about students and want them to be successful. That's so important. A lot of parents have appreciated it when I intervened and helped a student out who was struggling, but I never would have been able to do that intervention if it hadn't been for a professor calling me."

Bob Gatti, vice president for Student Affairs, feels that the programming

the College provides is very good. "I give Darryl credit for that. Since he's been here, I sense the students of color feel more ownership of the campus, that this is their campus, too, and would recommend it to their peers. Ten years ago we didn't have an extensive program for Black History Month, we didn't have a Black Baccalaureate, we didn't have special orientation programs, we didn't do *Harambee*, we didn't have a House of Black Culture, and these are all things students take pride in."

### But Are We Segregating?

All of the activities, groups, and residence are



*"It can be frustrating when I have to answer for or am expected to defend another black person. I've had students expect me to defend Louis Farrakan, for example. One, I'm not Muslim. Two, I'm not a follower of Farrakan. Three, I barely know his history. How am I supposed to answer for him? And yet there were those who expected me to. I'm like, 'Get off my back.'"*

Billoah Greene  
Junior

designed to help support students of color at Otterbein and help them succeed. However, there are those who would suggest that all of this simply leads to a form of institutionally-sanctioned segregation. Having a Student of Color Visitation Day, they will say, brings students of color together and sets the pattern for the next four years, when all the black students will sit together in the cafeteria everyday. And some have asked why a Black Baccalaureate is needed.

Peal admits that "some people were really ticked about Black Baccalaureate at first. They thought, 'Oh my God, he's doing a separate black graduation.' That's not what that is. Black students participate in Commencement. But Black Baccalaureate is a celebration of students and their academic and community service achievements. One of the most prestigious awards we give out is the Frederick Douglass award. That award goes to a student who maybe had a terrible GPA and then worked to get it up where he or she is an above-average student. The award says, 'Where there is no struggle, there is no purpose.' That student almost always gets a standing ovation, because it's usually someone who was on probation, who pulled themselves off, and now they're in good standing. We have to celebrate these kids' small achievements, because if we don't...who tells these kids they're okay? Who tells them that they're scholars? Who pushes them?"

Bob Gatti says, "The question I get asked all the time is, 'Why do all the black kids sit together in the cafeteria?' For twenty years

I've seen all the theatre majors sit together, all the football players sit together, people with like interests tend to sit together. Now all



*"I just get along with everyone. I talk to everyone....As far as I know, I'm the only Puerto Rican student at Otterbein now. Being a minority student at a predominantly white institution is just one more challenge of life....If white students really wanted to learn more about me, we could just sit down and have a nice dialogue, and that's how we could teach each other different cultural aspects."*

Jennie Cepeda  
Junior

of a sudden it becomes an issue, a segregated campus, when all the students of color sit together." Gatti maintains that same thought pattern is behind the criticism of Black Baccalaureate. "I eat my way through May and June just going to award ceremonies," Gatti says. "There are all kinds of award ceremonies recognizing students by major, recognizing students by clubs and organizations. But the minute we recognize students by ethnicity when we have Black Baccalaureate, it becomes an



issue. "Why are we segregating?" That isn't a substitute for Baccalaureate. Those students go to Baccalaureate, they speak at Baccalaureate, their families participate in Baccalaureate. But Black Baccalaureate is a ceremony to recognize some of their achievements. We do a lot of that here at Otterbein."

Micah Fitzgerald, a junior and Assistant Hall Director, offers a student's perspective. "I think when some see minorities sit together, it causes them some uneasiness. The thing is, they do interact differently than a group of Caucasian males might. That's their culture, their style. And there are so few minority students on campus, that during the day they're all spread out, going to individ-



"I recognize every day the privilege I have that I can walk away from these issues. In so many ways, diversity does not have to be part of my agenda, and that makes me even more committed to make it a part of my agenda. I think if more of us walked with it, we could make a significant impact on our society."

Joyce Jadwin  
Assistant Dean,  
Director of Res. Life

ual classes. When it's lunch time or dinner time, it's a time for them to come together. It seems natural to me."

Jeanne Talley says, "I'm not so sure we should be concerned about how students of color are integrating themselves, because there's integration all the time. Students go to classes where they may be the only student of color in the class. Some students of color can get an attitude of 'why are we always the ones who have to integrate? Why can't they come to us as well? Don't they think it's just as hard for us to approach them?' Commonalities among students of color will naturally draw them to the same kinds of organizations."

Beth Daugherty, professor of English and Integrative Studies chairperson, observes, "Students of color may hear criticism no matter how they go. If they join a predominantly white fraternity or sorority and integrate, someone may tell them they're trying to be white or that they're leaving their race behind. If they join a predominantly black fraternity or sorority, they may be criticized for not integrating, for not making more of an effort, for not assimilating."

One such student who says she was criticized was Eileen Francisco, a senior of Filipino descent and the 2000 Martin Luther King student award winner. "I've faced a lot of criticism because I want to integrate with other people. I've had students of color say to me, 'Well, is being Asian still a priority with you?' It's not that it's a priority, it's just who I am. My opinions go



*"The forming of black sororities and fraternities was done because historically, entrance into other fraternities and sororities may not have been possible. We might not have been wanted in those other organizations. You have to understand, these organizations were founded in the very early 1900s. Segregation was still very much a part of our society. Who do you turn to? You turn to your own people, who will have your back, who want the same thing you want, who look like you. That is a form of community, a family. The AASU (African American Student Union) is like my family."*

Chasity Lambert  
Junior

beyond being Asian. Being Christian is also part of who I am. My ethnic background makes me sensitive to certain things, but that's not just who I am."

Beth Smith, associate professor of Education, makes the fine point that the purpose of organizations such as AASU or Alpha Phi Alpha (an historically black fraternity) is not to be one hundred percent exclusive.

"What their purpose is is to be culturally specific, culturally supportive, culturally celebratory....If you're white and you choose to join Alpha Phi Alpha, more power to you. You're joining an organization that is going to celebrate the African American culture. It doesn't say you can't join, it's just the focus of the organization. The purpose is to celebrate the culture, not negate another culture. It has nothing to do with negating the mainstream culture."

Smith continues, "People get afraid of organizations and groupings when it's done by color, but Sunday morning is the most segregated time in this country, because people get up and go to their respective churches, and they are, for the most part, racially segregated. They're not segregated because one is better than another, but even worship styles and belief systems tend to be more specific to a particular culture group. We need to see that's okay, that there's nothing wrong with that."

## Does Racism Exist at Otterbein?

There it is, the question you have to take a deep breath to ask, the one so many are afraid of. But as wonderful as Otterbein is, it is not a utopia. And yes, racism does exist here, as it does most everywhere else. What kinds exist? And what do we do about it?

"Most of the time, many of the things that happen that could be considered prejudicial are done out of ignorance and not out of hate or spite," Beth Smith says. "It tends to be about education and broadening perspectives."





*"I hope that when people look at me as a Human Resources director, that they don't say, 'We have an Hispanic HR director.' I would hope they would say, 'We have a good HR director who does some good things for us, or he's a lousy HR director.' I feel more hurt if people take me to task for professional things, such as if someone says I'm disorganized, or I'm not committed to my position. They can call me all the racial epithets they want, I don't really care. To me that just reinforces that I'm perfect, because they can't find anything else wrong with me."*

Sam Ramirez

Human Resources Director

And Darryl Peal adds, "The unconscious racism sometimes bothers me. People are really well-meaning, but perhaps because of their lack of socialization with people of color, they can say things that are hurtful. They don't take the time to get to know us. Sometimes you hear a question like, 'What do black people eat?' The same things you eat. We go to McDonald's, we go to Burger King, we buy food at Kroger. Maybe some peo-

ple think all we eat are pig's feet and chitlins, I don't know. Black people are not a monolith and people need to understand that. That assumed misconception can sometimes cause problems. We're not all alike, and we don't assume white people are. I feel like I have a responsibility to educate, to dispel myths all the time. But I'm not sure our students here feel the same way. I think they are tired of it. They don't have the experience and the background of the civil rights movement. To them, that's ancient history. To them, people of color have always been part of the main culture. They've seen pictures of people of color who have become senators and mayors. So for them to have to come to school and explain what black people eat is problematic."

This problem of generalizing people of color into a monolith of sorts can also manifest itself in the class-

room. A student of color may find himself or herself being looked upon to represent and be a spokesperson for an entire race, especially if the classroom topic relates to race issues. Eileen Francisco had just such an experience with the Common Book.

"The Common Book when I came in was *China Boy*," Francisco says. "Here I am a freshman, and everyone's looking to me like I'm going to be an authority on all this. But I'm not a boy. I'm not Chinese. I come from New York and was raised by two Filipino parents, so just because I was Asian, I didn't feel like I had a lot in common with Gus Lee's experiences."

However, Billoah Greene, a junior, says he likes it when he's asked about race issues. "I'd much rather it be out in the open and be asked directly. That's better than everyone sitting there thinking things and being afraid to ask. Yes,



*"I just want to encourage everyone to become a part of ASIA (Asian Student Interest Association). Don't be afraid if you're white, because we really don't discriminate. Take the risk, what can it hurt. Just try something different. Go for it!"*

Manilath Southammavong  
Freshman

it can get a little heavy when you're the only person from your perspective. It can be frustrating, it can be hard, but I like the opportu-

## Programs and Activities Designed to Attract and Retain Students of Color

by Jenny Hill

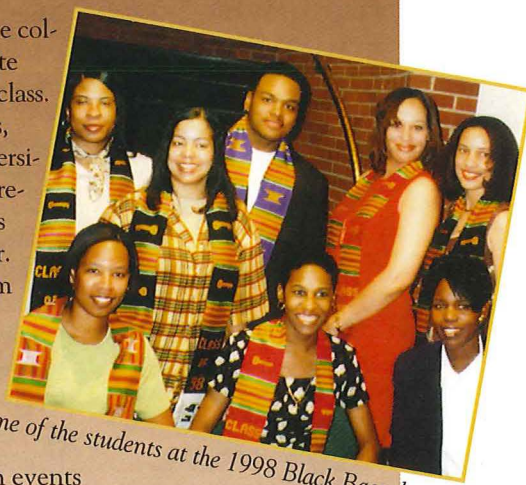
Otterbein College is typical of most small, private colleges in Ohio. The face of the average student is white and the background of the average student is middle class. However, in a positive trend across the United States, colleges such as Otterbein are seeking to increase diversity on their campuses. To achieve this, Otterbein is creating new programs and supporting new organizations for the recruitment and retention of students of color.

The student of color population has grown from under 3 percent in the mid 80's to currently about 9.5 percent.

The growth in the student of color population at Otterbein is partly a result of the efforts of the Office of Admissions. Associate Director of Admission Jeanne Talley said there are two main events designed to recruit students of color.

"The Student of Color Visitation Day is our recruiting tool in the fall," Talley said. "It's a chance for students to have their first introduction to Otterbein and to attend regular college classes. We even provide transportation for students."

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*Some of the students at the 1998 Black Baccalaureate*





*"I had my own stereotypes about people who lived in the country, so I've been educated. It was very eye-opening. My roommate is from a small town on the West Virginia border and she used to go home every weekend because she thought I was this crazy, partying New Yorker. One of the first questions I asked her was if she had a cow. But we became such good friends when we got to know one another. I was in her wedding. She's like a true sister to me."*

Eileen Francisco  
Senior

nity, and I feel like I've educated. I feel like when they leave, they'll have a better understanding of why I do the things I do or feel the way I feel."

Joyce Jadwin, assistant dean and director of Residence Life, and the recipient of the 2000 Martin Luther King Jr. administrator award, says she knows that students of color can get a little weary of doing the educating. "We talk to R.A.s (Resident Assistants) of color on how to handle always being the one, the person who is asked the questions. It can be the simple things, like, 'Why do

you put oil in your hair when I take it out of mine?' The questions can get tiring. I think that's where if we continue to keep a critical mass of students, that burden gets easier individually, because it's spread out and not just on the shoulders of a few. And the more we can educate our white students, the easier it will get, because then they can be advocates and educators. You don't have to be a woman to stand up against sexism."

There can also be resentment from some in the mainstream culture when persons of color want to celebrate their culture. Darryl Peal says, "There are still people in the community who think when black people celebrate their culture, it means they don't like white people. They make huge leaps of judgment about it, so you are constantly defending why you're proud to be African American. If we don't celebrate our culture and our connection to Africa, then our heritage in this country begins with slavery. So we have to attach ourselves to the continent, and say we are African American. It does not make us any less American. I am extremely proud to be an American. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else. But I also know, I also appreciate, and I also celebrate the fact that I'm African. I have this brown skin, and I have these thick lips because of a relationship to Africa. I don't want my family's history to start with slavery, so I identify very heavily with being African."

At least one student has picked up on that message. "I think Darryl does a great job in instilling ethnic pride in everyone," says Micah

Fitzgerald. "You can see a change in students when they come to Otterbein and they've been here awhile, that sense of pride in the community. It's not arrogance. I just see pride and celebration of culture, and that's something everyone can appreciate."

Manilath Southamavong, president of ASIA (Asian Student Interest Association), says, "I think we should celebrate our differences. Everybody is different, and that's the beautiful thing. If everybody was the same it would be boring. We wouldn't get to experience different perspectives, different foods, etc."



*"Students of color may hear criticism no matter how they go. If they join a predominantly white fraternity or sorority and integrate, someone may tell them they're trying to be white or that they're leaving their race behind. If they join a predominantly black fraternity or sorority, they may be criticized for not integrating, for not making more of an effort, for not assimilating."*

Beth Daugherty  
Professor of English,  
Integrative Studies Chair

Joyce Jadwin adds, "I think an awareness of diverse cultures makes our lives exceptionally rich. I have been tremendously fortunate to have so many people in my life who have taught me amazing things and have helped me know and appreciate different cultures, different perspectives. I think if we can all focus on doing that, our lives just become fuller."

Micah Fitzgerald relates his own experiences. "I think what I found with my African American friends was that we celebrated the differences first. In getting to know another, you appreciate a friend for who they are, and learn more about them. Then you kind of fall into this friendship where color never even becomes an issue. It seems that the celebration, the appreciation, is that first step, then after awhile you don't see it or pay attention to it much. You get to care about who they are, personalities, it doesn't matter what color you are."

## Reaching Out May Mean Taking Risks

There does exist a perception among many white students, faculty and administrators alike that if something is for or about African Americans, or Asians, or Hispanics, then it is not meant for whites. A question, often pondered but left unasked, is "If I went to an event, would I be welcome?"

Beth Smith says, "What I see happening, societally and not just at this institution, is that it's much easier for a person of color to move into the white, mainstream group because they have to. Because that tends to be what the world is about. It's



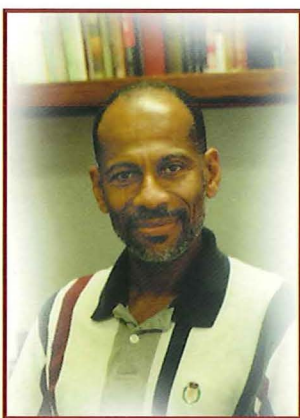
harder for a white student to go to a function that is predominantly attended by students of color because the white students don't ever have to do that in order to live in the world. If you're a student of color, you're going to be in nearly all-white situations. But you don't have to do that if you're white. And that's where the fear comes from. Because they've never had to do it, they don't know how."

To Beth Daugherty, feeling that unease is simply part of the educational process. "I think it's good to have to ask that question (Am I welcome?) because then you realize that people of color may be asking themselves the same questions about events that typically have a predominantly white attendance. If you are being educated, then you may feel uncomfortable, because something is changing. We need to get students used to that as part of the learning process. How do you help students get past that fear? Tell them to take a deep breath and just do it."

Beth Smith makes it a part of her class on multiculturalism. "Students are required to put themselves in the position of being a minority. I don't care where you go, go to a black church, go to a gay bar, you go somewhere and you have to stay a certain length of time, and then write about it. Most mainstream folks have never been in that position."

## Growing Pains are a Good Thing

That the College was having growing pains was a frequent refrain among those interviewed. And yet no one saw that as a negative. After all, if you're having



*"I don't think the idea of color blindness is possible. I think we want to make people aware that there are some differences and you can't ignore them by saying that you're color blind and that you don't see them because they are clearly evident. You can't say welcome to a place where there are people of different complexions and say everybody looks the same."*

Lonnell Johnson  
Professor of English

growing pains, you must be growing.

"The issues we've talked about and that we're facing are issues that every college in the country is facing," Peal says. "They are not exclusive to Otterbein. They are part of the growing pains of America."

Billoah Greene echoes that sentiment in his recommendation of Otterbein. "The reason I would recommend it is I feel the problems Otterbein has with diversity are problems that exist everywhere. Any private, predominantly white school is likely to have problems achieving diversity and issues that need to be worked on, but the thing that makes Otterbein a place I would highly recommend

is that the people here are trying. They're listening, and they're honestly trying to address some issues."

Jeanne Talley feels we need more diversity from the top down. "If you get people of color on the Board of Trustees, then you have a better chance to get people of color on the faculty. If you do that, then you have a better chance of getting more students of color."

Beth Daugherty offers this: "What I think is wonderful about your title (An Emerging Diversity) is that it means we're having growing pains. Good for us. I hope that at some point it's no longer emerging but is full-blown."

Sam Ramirez thinks the effort and desire is genuine, but that we need to "close the deal. Look at the presidential line of this college, over 150 years of white males. When Brent retires, if they want to hire a woman president here they can. If they want to hire an African American, they could do that. They could find very well qualified candidates. That's where the commitment comes in. That's where it comes to closing the deal."

Jenny Cepeda, a junior transfer student from Puerto Rico, cuts to the heart of the matter. "Communication is the key to solutions. People need to sit down and express what they feel."

Junior Chasity Lambert, like Greene, also gives a ringing endorsement to her alma mater. "I would recommend Otterbein. Some of my friends are like, 'You go to a white school?' Yes I do, and the chances I have had here I wouldn't have had at other schools. I am grateful and privileged to be

here at this school. Otterbein has its ups and downs, its advantages and disadvantages, but overall I truly feel honored and blessed to be here.

"I would recommend it to other prospective students of color, but I would also tell them there are things they need to be aware of. I think Otterbein has made me more aware of who I am, where I've come from, and who I want to be." ■



*"What I found with my African American friends was that we celebrated the differences first. In getting to know another, you appreciate a friend for who they are, and learn more about them. Then you kind of fall into this friendship where color never even becomes an issue. It seems that the celebration, the appreciation, is that first step, then after awhile you don't see it or pay attention to it much. You get to care about who they are, personalities, it doesn't matter what color you are."*

Micah Fitzgerald  
Junior



NAVAJO



PEOPLE



CAROL ENGLE, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF NURSING, SPENT HER SABBATICAL WITH THE DINÉ PEOPLE ON THE NAVAJO RESERVATION. BY GAINING THEIR TRUST, SHE WAS ABLE TO LEARN ABOUT THEIR CULTURE AND THEIR HEALTH PRACTICES.



*by Carol Engle*

"Yah-ah-teeh" is how I am greeted as I arrive on the Navajo Reservation in northeast Arizona. It is a cool day in March with a beautiful blue sky above. I had traveled sixty miles from the closest town, store, or gas station through magnificent scenery. My destination was the Inscription House Clinic, which is the third-most isolated clinic in the United States.

Being on the reservation felt very wonderful even though it seemed as though I had been catapulted into a very different land, culture and time zone. It seemed very different to hear a language that I could not understand and yet I felt so much at home even though I was certainly in the minority. In fact, a Navajo Public Health Nurse who was my mentor made a comment with a warm smile the third day after my arrival. "You really stand out with your red hair." Yes, she was right. We both laughed about her comment as she went on to say, "but people seem to trust you so you must have a good heart."

Trust is indeed an important issue when interacting with individuals from a culture different from oneself. I was working as a nurse in a health clinic with individuals who were coming to the clinic due to an illness or to prevent an illness, so trust was a very essential element. I felt very fortunate, not only to be on the Navajo (Diné) Reservation learning many new things, but to be accepted by a cultural group that some Americans do not always treat with respect.

The Navajo people prefer to be called Diné even though their land is named The Navajo Nation. Diné

means "the people" which is more positive than the Spanish word Navajo. Nevertheless, even they use Navajo the majority of the time.

When I started writing this article I intended to include only the knowledge that I learned about the Navajo (Diné) culture and health practices. After all, those were the reasons I traveled to this isolated, rural location in Arizona. In academia we are supposed to gather and analyze data. However, as I started to write, knowledge and facts did not seem adequate. So I went back and read once again the daily journal that I kept while living on the reservation; the journal that I wrote from my heart that could fill the pages of an entire book. It was only when I went back to get in touch with those feelings evoked by the wonderful Navajo people, did the words start to flow for this article. One can not truly learn about another culture just by looking at knowledge, facts or research—all of which I had done in preparation for this journey. So I am writing with great warmth and respect for the Navajo people. They trusted me enough to teach me much about their way of life and allowed me into their hearts and homes. I am deeply grateful for their warmth and generosity.

The Navajo (Diné) Nation covers 25,000 square miles and eighteen million acres with a population over 200,000. Most of the land is in northeast Arizona with some areas in Utah and New Mexico. The edge of the Grand Canyon, the centuries-old rock formations, the mountains, the magnificent sunsets and especially the

Diné people make this land feel very sacred! Indeed, working as a nurse in the most isolated clinic at the base of Navajo Mountain 120 miles from any store was a special kind of spiritual experience. There was a sense of awe, of trees and land that had so many things to tell me if I could only understand.

Since I did not speak the Navajo language an interpreter was needed at times, especially for the older individuals who are fiercely proud and independent. The younger generation and those who live in urban areas speak English rather than Navajo and are very well-educated in schools and universities. The elders are concerned that the younger generation is losing touch with some of their cultural traditions and their Navajo language. I was there to learn about the older, traditional customs in the rural areas so that is where I spent most of my time.

The belief system of the Navajo and other Native Americans with whom I have met, studied or read about is that an individual needs to be in harmony or balance with nature. There is a reverence or respect for the earth, trees, birds, animals and all living creatures. This belief is important when thinking about health, wellness and life in general. The Diné traditional belief is that an illness is a dis-ease not disease. In other words, something in their life is out of balance or harmony with the universe. Most of the Diné people use both their traditional health beliefs and the modern clinic to stay healthy. Some will drink fresh herb teas or soak in herbal baths in addition to taking the antibiotic prescribed by the physician at the clinic. This is not so different than at least one third of other Americans across the nation who have turned to alternative or complementary health care. The difference is that the Diné, along with other Native Americans, have had the knowledge of using nature as a health or healing aspect all of their lives for many generations.

The Diné people are very spiritual. For them, spirituality is somewhat different than religion, in that it encompasses not only a belief in "the



creator" but a way of life. Every part of their life has meaning and sacredness. This spirituality is included in their daily lives, their ceremonies for health and happiness, and for every living thing on the planet.

The land is very important. The Navajo people have lived off the land for many years. And there is a very real sense of "community." They must rely on each other for help in times of need. They care for extended family members and believe it is their duty to welcome any family member, no matter how distantly related, into their homes.

Food is not taken for granted by the Navajo people. Corn is very important to their way of life. It is used in numerous foods, and while visiting their homes I would often see corn hanging on the wall. Corn pollen is also an important part of their lives and is used with great respect in spiritual ceremonies.

Sheep herds as well as goats are commonly seen in the rural areas. While visiting an ill elderly woman in her home she told us she could not drink the milk from cows, that the only milk she could drink was goats milk. I learned that many Native Americans have an intolerance to milk from cows. This is important information to know when giving nursing care. She was losing weight and had been given a canned milk substitute which only made her more ill.

Time is another aspect that I had much to learn about on the reservation. Individuals living in urban areas are accustomed to rushing everywhere, keeping appointments and

ending up rather exhausted. This makes it difficult to be aware of the present moment and be in harmony with nature. The Diné worked very hard, kept appointments and also ended up exhausted. However, in the back of their minds was the idea that one cannot force things until it is time—that things can't be rushed. The only way to know when it is time for something is to have an awareness of the totality of life and nature.

The Diné have many health beliefs. My original goal was to learn about their traditional health practices. They did indeed teach me much about the health practices used, but many of their beliefs revolve around spirituality. Out of respect for their belief system I will not write about them at this time as I value their trust in me. Some of their health practices are handed down from generation to generation and I do not believe it is my right to discuss them. As I stated earlier, trust is essential to all interactions and in particular between different cultures.

An important mission of Otterbein College is to foster cultural diversity. My experience brought a new dimension to the college as well as to me. I was able to develop and teach a course in fall quarter of 1998 on Native American Culture and Health. Several Native Americans from Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York from various Native American ancestries assisted. Students had opportunities to learn some of their wonderful beliefs and an appreciation for a culture that at times varies from their own.

All too soon, the time came for me to say good-bye. The real test of trust came when I was invited back to participate in a special time of the seasons for them. "You must come back when the corn is beginning to ripen and help us collect corn pollen from the top of the corn tassels," they said. Prior to my living in the rural area of the Navajo (Diné) Reservation, this would not have been meaningful to me. However, now I realize the corn pollen and the woven baskets in which it is collected are considered sacred. To be invited back to collect the sacred pollen was an honor for me.

Sometimes I think those of us living in urban areas have forgotten how important trust is to all relationships. I feel for us to survive, to be healthy and happy, we must again go back to trusting each other, helping each other, and building a sense of community. I feel that for too long in the United States we have become too individualistic, too interested in our own welfare. As I was taught by the Diné, we must learn to love and take care of our neighbors if we are to survive; we must develop a community in which we can work together for the good of all.

I feel very privileged to have had the opportunity to live on the Navajo Reservation. I feel fortunate that I was so readily welcomed with open arms into their lives. I feel very lucky to have lived with the beautiful individuals who call themselves The Diné—a very proud, honest, hard-working group of individuals. ■

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The fourteenth annual Student of Color Visitation Day was held on Nov. 3, 1999. Otterbein hosted 134 students from 19 high schools in central Ohio. The day included a welcome from President Brent DeVore, as well as an information session about application procedures, financial aid tips and scholarship opportunities. Students also attended classes in a variety of disciplines and had the chance to ask questions to a panel of enrolled students.

Reactions to the Student of Color Visitation Day were very positive. Cordelia Farmer, a senior from Fort Hayes Metropolitan Education Center, said, "I liked the class I attended because I was treated nicely and my questions were answered. I felt like I was a student at Otterbein."

Otterbein junior Syreeta Watkins said, "It was great to see the diverse interests and majors that prospective students talked about. I hope a large number of them will enroll next fall."

The second major recruiting tool for students of color is the "Images of You" weekend in March. Students who have been accepted for admission are invited to spend a night on campus to experience residence hall life, get acquainted with enrolled students and interact with fellow prospective Otterbein students.

"The activities start with Academic Interest Day for all accepted students. Then the students of color are invited to spend the night for games, music, food and a dance," Talley said.





*Otterbein alumni from the 70s, enjoying Black Baccalaureate, are joined by Lucy Ann Hurston (far right), a niece of Zora Neil Hurston, the renowned author for which the award for academic achievement is named.*

Talley said that Otterbein's student of color recruiting programs started modestly and are now growing. "These programs really help us attract students of color and let their families know we are serious about having their children attend Otterbein.

The Ammons-Thomas Scholarships, named after now retired United Methodist Bishops of the East and West Ohio Conferences, also abet recruiting efforts. The scholarship was established in 1986 and is awarded to approximately 25 recipients each year. "It helps our student of color enrollment a great deal," Talley said.

Once a student of color is enrolled as an Otterbein student, it is the job of the College to make these students feel welcome, get them involved on campus and create support systems for them. To do this, the College plans dozens of events throughout the school year.

One of the most popular events is the Black Baccalaureate, a celebration of academic achievement and community service for African American students at Otterbein. "This event is not only for the students, but for their families," Peal said. "It was created because many African American students felt they were not getting the recognition they deserved for their accomplishments."

This was also the reason for the creation of several awards given by Otterbein to honor achievements of students of color. These include the Zora Neil Hurston and Paul Robeson

awards, given to a female and male student respectively for academic achievement; the Frederick Douglass award, given to one who shows great improvement and makes it "against the odds"; the Ida B. Wells Service Award, given to someone who is outstanding in their community service involvement; the Emerging Leader Award, given to a freshman who has been very involved with extra-curricular activities; and perhaps one of the most coveted, the William Henry Fouse Award, given to an outstanding senior.

According to Peal, these awards tie Otterbein's students of color to the College. "They help create an environment where we pull people back to campus who think Otterbein was a great place. We want them to say, 'I had leadership opportunities and won awards.'"

Otterbein takes a special interest in African American issues through activities and events for Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January and Black History Month in February.

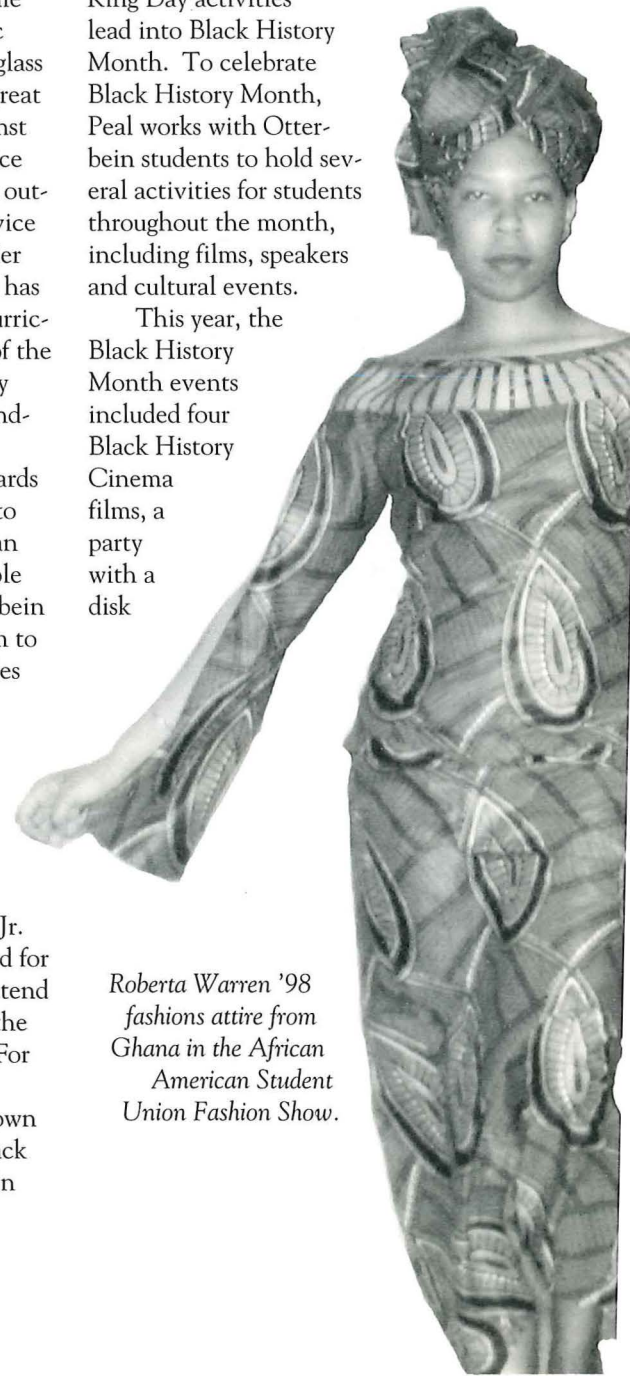
For the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation, classes are canceled for part of the day so students can attend a speech about current issues in the African American community. For the 2000 convocation, Franklin County Judge Yvette McGee Brown spoke about central figures in black history and about race relations in America today.

Also at the annual convocation, the Martin Luther King Jr. Awards for Peace and Justice are presented. These awards are presented each year to a student, faculty or staff member who demonstrates ideals of equity and equality.

This year, Martin Luther King Jr. Day was also celebrated with a candle-light vigil and the Otterbein Artist Series presentation of *The Meeting*, a play presenting an imagined dialogue between the Black Freedom leaders King and Malcolm X, who only met once, briefly at a press conference. (See stories about these events under College News.)

The Martin Luther King Day activities lead into Black History Month. To celebrate Black History Month, Peal works with Otterbein students to hold several activities for students throughout the month, including films, speakers and cultural events.

This year, the Black History Month events included four Black History Cinema films, a party with a disk



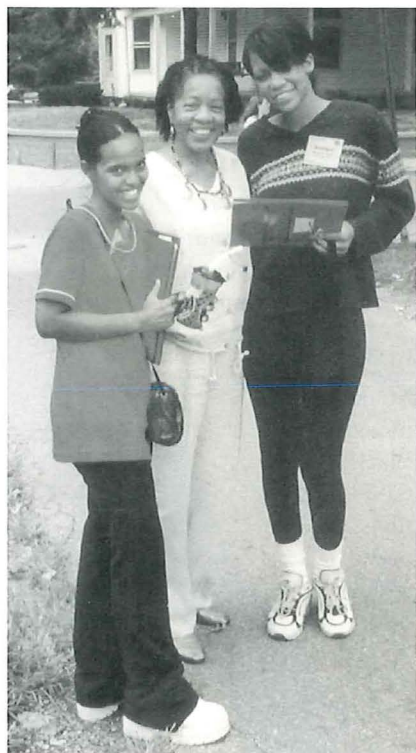
*Roberta Warren '98 fashions attire from Ghana in the African American Student Union Fashion Show.*



jockey and a live jazz band, a speech by State Representative Ray Miller and a performance by Tony West and the Imani Dancers.

Peal said for students of color, the highlight of Black History Month is the "Luv Fest," an annual talent show in which students of color display their talents and celebrate their culture through music, dancing and poetry, among other things.

Flipping through his portfolio of posters and articles for past events, Peal mentioned some of the other events the Office of Ethnic Diversity has held. "Since I've been here, we've held midnight breakfasts, community service projects, speakers,



films, plays, fashion shows and Poetry slams," Peal said. "We also have the All School-Small School Jam, and we always celebrate Kwanza."

Peal said that getting the students of color involved in activities designed for them makes them more active on campus in general. "I see our activities as being a gateway to make the students of color part of the larger community."

"When a student has a really good time with a community service project, I will say, 'You need to talk to Beth Urban (the Coordinator of Community Service),' " Peal said. "That's how these students get involved in campus-wide community service and other organizations."

When the students are not busy with school or attending campus events, there is always a place for them in the House of Black Culture. This theme house on the Otterbein campus was created as a place for African American students to relax in a familiar setting. A maximum of five male or five female students live in the house. They are selected based on petitions and they act as hosts to those who visit the house.

"To the students, the house is a safe haven," Peal said. "It's a place where they can express themselves openly through food, music, television and conversation. They can find entertainment without having to explain or defend their likes and dislikes."

Peal said that the House of Black Culture also creates alternatives for students of color. "One week, there

was a *Friends* party in a residence hall opposite a New York Undercover party in the House of Black Culture. We also hold Soulful Sunday at the house, complete with soul food and music," he said. "If you are an African American student, the house is a place that looks like you, feels like you and sounds like you."

If the House of Black Culture is where memories are made, the annual magazine *Harambee* is where memories are recorded. "We began *Harambee* in 1993 because the *Tan and Cardinal* wasn't covering our events and issues since they were not of interest to the majority of the readers," Peal said. "We had a great response to that first issue, and now the students expect it every year. They always ask when it will be ready."

*Harambee* is a forum for some students of color to get their writing published, even if they write on controversial issues. For others, it is an opportunity to read articles that would not be printed in newspapers and to see pictures of their friends. "*The Tan and Cardinal* almost never had pictures of students of color and the yearbook only recently started being more inclusive. So *Harambee* was like a memory book for students of color," Peal said.

*Harambee* features a summary of events and activities throughout the year and lists the many campus organizations for students of color, including the African American Student Union (AASU), the Asian Student Interest Association (ASIA), the Black Student Task Force (BSTF) and Sisters United, as well as the sororities and fraternities for students of color. "These organizations are important to students of color needing support," Peal said. "Students find comfort in organizations that reflect them."

The African American Student Union was founded in 1987 to promote unity and cooperation among African American students and all students with similar interests or backgrounds.

According to AASU president Chasity Lambert, the organization is



**Top:** Dehab Keflom (r) and Monique Martin (l), incoming freshman, pose with Jeanne Talley during new student weekend. **Above:** Students gather in the Chapel for the Martin Luther King Jr. Candlelight Vigil sponsored by the Office of Ethnic Diversity.



not exclusive. "It is open to anyone on campus, but people who want to get involved must understand and meet the needs of AASU," she said. "Our three main goals are unity, community and leadership. We want to teach others about diversity."

AASU sponsors the annual Luv Fest Talent Show and the annual African American Greek Festival. "We show the other side of Greek life on campus through music, hand clapping, foot stomping and chants," Lambert said.

Peal said AASU connects African American students on campus. "AASU is basically a support group. It helps students be comfortable and not feel lonely."

The Asian Student Interest Association was founded in 1997 by students who wanted to promote the issues affecting and concerning students of Asian descent. The goal of ASIA is to promote relationships and alliances with the larger Otterbein community, including campus organizations, faculty and administrators interested in these issues.

Peal said ASIA is becoming more active on campus each year. "ASIA hosts speakers and movie nights. For Asian Awareness Week in February, they showed The Joy Luck Club and hosted a discussion afterward."

The Black Student Task Force is an organization of members from seven local colleges, including Otterbein College, Ohio Wesleyan University, Denison University, Ohio Dominican College, Kenyon College, Wittenberg University and Capital University. It unites students of color from these campuses to create a larger and stronger community to promote leadership and create friendships.

Sisters United is a support group for women of color on campus. Sisters United is dedicated to cultural, political and social advancement for women of color at Otterbein. The organization's programs are designed to empower women of color, to build awareness of pertinent issues, and to promote the women's interests.

Peal said there is a real need for extra support among women of color.

"These women are constantly reminded that they are the 'other.' Many stores don't stock the colors of makeup or hosiery that these women need, or even hair care products," he said. "They need an organization with other members who face the same problems they do."

The Otterbein Gospel Choir is another interesting organization on Otterbein's campus. Gospel has been sung traditionally in black churches, but there are more white students in the Choir than students of color. The Choir was organized in the fall of 1990. Standard, traditional, and contemporary gospel music is sung. The choir is open to all students and provides the opportunity for students to join in fellowship and release tension in a community of praise.

The Choir performs annually for the Martin Luther King Jr. Convocation, Family Appreciation Day, and Chapel services. They also accept engagements for area churches, school, and other organizations.

There are three sororities and one fraternity at Otterbein that are historically African American. The sororities, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta and Zeta Phi Beta, were all founded at Howard University in Washington, D.C. between 1908 and 1920. The fraternity, Alpha Phi Alpha, founded at Cornell University, was the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for black college students.

Students of color at Otterbein are active and involved, and they expect the same from the College. "They do their best to be involved and they demand and expect more in return," Peal said. "Many of our events were token before, but are expected now."

Peal said with the help of the students and the College, the Office of Ethnic Diversity is creating lasting memories. "We are making campus traditions, and these traditions tie students of color to Otterbein. We teach students to love Otterbein, that this is your school, your alma mater. You need to give back to Otterbein, you need to stay involved, you need to be good alumni." ■



Members of AASU gather for a photo at the 15th Annual Black Man's Think Tank Conference at the University of Cincinnati. The Conference discusses issues and experiences of students of color from colleges across the country.



# Friends of the Library Looking for Members

The Friends are an association of persons interested in:

- 1) Promoting the interests of the Library
- 2) Encouraging an understanding of the part the library plays in educating Otterbein students, in supporting faculty and staff, and in cooperating with other libraries to share resources;
- 3) Encouraging gifts and bequests to benefit the library, and
- 4) Assisting the Library and its staff with exhibits, programs, publications, and other appropriate means.

Membership in the Friends is open to any person who is interested in supporting the activities and programs of the Otterbein College Library, and who has contributed financially, through service, or through the gift of a special book, a collection of books, manuscripts, periodicals, or other informational formats. Members receive advance notification of all library events, a copy of the Friends newsletter, and borrowing privileges from the library (including access to materials through Opal and Ohiolink).

The donation categories are as follows:

- Imaginative Friend (Generous donation including special purpose or non-financial)
- Philanthropist (\$500 +)
- Benefactor (\$100 - \$499)
- Contributor (\$50 - \$99)
- Family - Two or more people in the same household (\$35)
- Individual Friend (\$20)
- Otterbein Student (\$5)

Contributions are fully tax deductible in accordance with Internal Revenue Service rules.

The money raised through the Friends is used to support the programs and services of the library. Recent purchases include upgrading the Library Security system, reupholstering furniture, purchasing display materials, acquiring a cash register for the main desk, and buying certain expensive reference books.

To become a member, please contact Lois Szudy, Library Director (and Treasurer of the Friends), by mail at Courtright Memorial Library, 1 Otterbein College, Westerville, OH 43081, by phone at (614) 823-1414, or by email at [LSzudy@otterbein.edu](mailto:LSzudy@otterbein.edu).

## Goodbye to a Few Friends

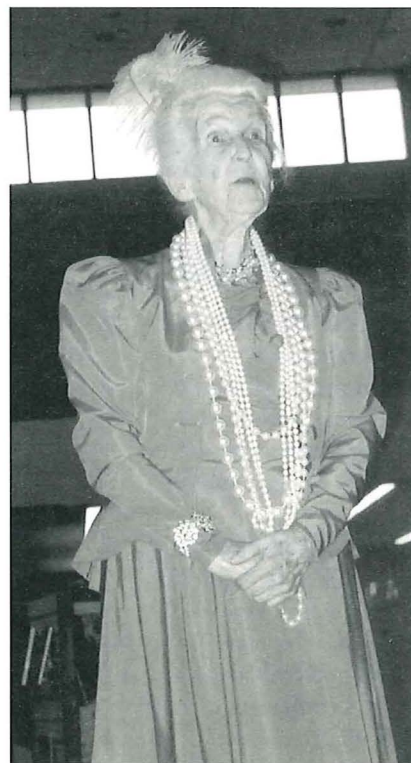
Jean (LeMaster) Wornstaff Courtright died on Tuesday, January 25, 2000 at her home. She was the former owner and publisher of the Westerville Public Opinion. She and her husband, A. Monroe Courtright, '40, donated money in 1971 to help fund the construction and furnishing of the library. In 1979, after Monroe's death, the family donated

money to Otterbein College to name the library in memory of Monroe and his parents, Robert and Ada Courtright. In the early 1990s, Jean donated an oil painting of Monroe to the library, which hangs in the entrance area of the library. She continued through the years to donate objects to the library, including art books, Civil War memorabilia, and an arrowhead collection, all of which belonged to the Courtright family. Her step-daughters, Kristy Courtright, '68 and Karla Courtright Banning, '70, continue to follow in Monroe's and Jean's steps of supporting the library and serve as active members of the Friends of the Library.

A very special friend, whose obituary appeared in the Winter edition of the *Towers* magazine, also will be greatly missed. Lillian Frank died on December 8, 1999 at St. Ann's Hospital. She was an active member of the Friends of the Library through her participation in events, her monetary donations, and her advice and counsel.



Jean Courtright at the Courtright Memorial Library Naming Dedication, June 2, 1979.



Lillian Frank at the April, 1999 Friends of the Library Meeting, portraying a famous author.





Betty Woodworth Clark, April 1999

## Betty Woodworth Clark, '42 Creates First Friends' Bookmark

The first annual Friends of the Courtright Memorial Library bookmark has as its distinguished designer, a Friends member, Betty Woodworth Clark, water colorist. A native of Jamestown, New York, she grew up in the deep woods and sunlit meadows of Chautauqua County, and influences of those years are evident in her work. An alumna of Otterbein College (class of 1942), Clark received her M.A. from Ohio University, and has studied a number of artists through the years.

Clark's works have been exhibited in hundreds of state and national exhibitions and have won many awards. She taught art in Euclid Schools, Cleveland Museum of Art, Tri-C Western Campus, Parma Continuing Education, and Parma Center Gallery, where she served as volunteer director from 1963-1993. The Westerville Otterbein Women's Club in 1966 named her Woman of the Year for her achievements in art. A recent project has been the creation of three large illustrative panels installed in the Children's Room of the Middleburg Heights Library.

Clark's bookmark was given to each Friends member when they joined or renewed their membership. It featured Towers Hall and is printed in the college's colors of tan and cardinal.

The 2000-2001 bookmark has just been finalized by Joanne Miller Stichweh '67, associate professor of Art. Everyone joining or renewing their membership will receive this bookmark adorning the beautiful art of this talented alumna and associate professor of Otterbein.

## A Penny for your Thoughts... or your Library!!

Bring or send your pennies to the Courtright Memorial Library by June 30, 2000 and help the Friends of the Library collect a mile of pennies (rolls end-to-end). Money raised will be used to purchase heavy-duty outdoor

furniture for "under the overhang" of the library. As part of Otterbein's strategic plan, the Friends of the Library is interested in creating an inviting, informal, and comfortable gathering place for faculty, staff, students, and community members. Your pennies (and nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars) can make a difference in the look and feel of the library. If you prefer you may donate funds sufficient to purchase a bench or a set of table and chairs. A plaque honoring your gift will be created and proudly displayed.

Just the Facts:

One roll of pennies (50 cents) = 3 inches. 3 inches x 4 rolls = \$2.00 per foot of pennies, which equals \$10,560 in a mile of pennies (21,120 rolls). If we collect dollars, quarters, nickels, and dimes too...they add up quickly.

Please send your donation (of any size) for this worthwhile project to Lois Szudy, Library Director, Otterbein College, Courtright Memorial Library, 1 Otterbein College, Westerville, OH 43081. Checks should be made out to Otterbein College. Donations also can be delivered to the circulation desk of the library. ■



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**1997**

**Elisabeth Getter** to Jeffery Middleton, Sept. 6, 1997.

**1998**

**Jarrod Kern** to Kari Davis, Aug. 14, 1999.

**1999**

**Sara Richards** to Brett Cisler, Dec. 11, 1999.

### ADDITIONS

**1980**

**Susan Ott Rodberg** and husband Eric, a boy, Karl

Eric, September 9, 1999. He joins older sister Kelsey 9.

**1981**

**Robert Engelbach** and wife Glenda, adopted a girl, Jordan Elisabeth Louise, October 8, 1999.

**1983**

**Jackie Cave Congrove** and husband Tom, a girl, Jillian Kay, June 14, 1999. She joins brothers Ty 11, Tim 9 and Trent 3.

**Jeff Humphrey** and wife Jackie, a boy, Alexander

Kyle, April 29, 1999. He joins older sisters Melissa 14 and Jessica 9.

**Timothy Kieffer** and wife Susan, a girl, Gretchen Dayle, March 18, 1999. She joins older brother Ian 3.

**Reid Landis** and wife Michelle, a boy, Rorke Zachariah, September 15, 1999. He joins older sister Melodie 4.

**T. Joseph Shoopman** and wife Audrey, a boy, Douglas Matthew, August 20, 1999.

He joins older brother Gregory 22 months.

**1985**

**Tonya Parkey Hittner** and husband David, a boy, Nathaniel Trevor, December 7, 1999. He joins older brother Alexander 4.

**Nancy Binzel Pierce** and husband Larry, a boy, Brady Binzel, July 26, 1999. He joins older brother Carter 1.

**John Ricarte** and wife Elizabeth, a girl, Alexandra Elizabeth, September 14, 1999.



## 1986

**Kristen Holm Arendt** and husband Randy, a girl, Brit-tany Nicole, June 7, 1999. She joins older brother Kyle 4.

**Todd Ebbrecht** and wife Kim, a girl, Alexis, March 17, 1999. She joins older brother Clay 4.

## 1987

**Gina Grogg Fearn** and hus-band Todd, a girl, Victoria Elizabeth, October 4, 1999. She joins older sisters Clarise 5 and Isabella 2.

## 1988

**Joanne Hill Marshall** and husband Brian, twin girls, Hailey & Hillary, May 22, 1999. They join older sister Joelle 4 1/2.

## 1989

**Julie Denton Henshaw** and husband David, a boy Adam, September 2, 1999. He joins older brother Matthew 2.

**Jackie Pietila Hassenpflug** and husband **Eric '89**, a boy, Greg Isaac, June 29, 1999. He joins big brother Luke, 6.

**Vicki Cawley Pitstick** and husband Donovan, a girl, Abigail Renee, September 13, 1999.

## 1990

**Kathy Conte Strous** and husband **Kevin '89**, a girl, Jennalee Elizabeth, July 20, 1999. She joins older brother Jacob 3.

## 1991

**Renee Stanley Wilson** and husband Don, a girl, Dresden Elizabeth, August 31, 1998.

**Deborah Ornelas Wright** and husband **Tim '91**, a boy,

Mason William, February 18, 1999. He joins older brother Brady 1.

## 1992

**Deanna Ratajczak Biros** and husband JD, a boy, Joseph Bryan, November 29, 1999.

**Jennifer Ludwick Brown** and husband **Keith '92**, a boy, Mason Keith, July 29, 1998.

**Kimberly Clouse Gramke** and husband **Gregory '91**, a boy, Evan Gregory, November 19, 1998.

**Lori Bunsold Rausch** and husband Jay, a girl, Kristin Jaelyn, August 1, 1998.

## 1993

**Jill Conarro Kramer** and husband **Chris '94**, a girl, Sydney Dianne, March 1, 1999. She joins older brother Luke 2. Proud grandmother is **Blanche Geho Conarroe '66**.

**Christina Stitzlein Nicol** and husband Keith, a boy, Tristan Keith-Alan, September 29, 1999.

**Lynn Burman Ritchey** and husband Rob, a boy, Bryan Patrick, August 17, 1999.

## 1994

**Heather Heffelfinger Garling** and husband Paul, a daughter, Aidan Elise, December 2, 1998.

**Patricia Wiser Holtkamp** and husband **Michael '93**, a girl, Alyssa Marie, August 20, 1999. Proud relatives are **Heather Holtkamp '96** and **Great Grandfather Calvin Holtkamp '50**.

**Esther Rodriguez Reynolds** and husband Ron, a boy,

Andrew Stephen, September 12, 1999.

## 1995

**Toni Stemen Derstine** and husband Aron, a boy, Connor Dale, April 14, 1999.

## 1997

**Heather Shannon DeRosh**a and husband Daniel, a boy, Bailey Anthony, April 15, 1999.

**Elisabeth Getter Middleton** and husband Jeffrey, a boy, Blake Alexander, December 11, 1998.

## DEATHS

## 1929

**Mary Myrtle Nafzger** passed away on November 2, 1999. She was a former elementary school teacher for Southwest City Schools. She was a life long member of the Mifflin Presbyterian Church, and also a member of the church choir for 60 years. She was a charter member of the Gahanna Garden Club and the Otterbein College Alumni Association. She is survived by nieces and nephews and a host of great-nieces and nephews.

## 1930

**Thelma Gregory Jackson** passed away on January 29, 2000 at the Lima Manor Nursing Home, Lima, OH. She was a retired school teacher from Dayton Public Schools after 41 years. She also was a member of Wood-lawn Baptist Church. She is survived by her daughter Sandy Kay Kelly of Lima; two grandchildren and a great grandchild.

## 1930

Otterbein has received word that **Emmor Widdoes**

recently passed away on December 22, 1999. He is survived by his wife Loraine and two children Nancy and Donald.

## 1931

Otterbein has received word that **Mabel Wurm Croy** passed away on October 15, 1999. She was a member of Rho Kappa Delta sorority.

## 1937

Otterbein has learned that **Jean Weekley Martin** passed away on September 18, 1999.

## Cornelius H. "Connie"

**O'Brien** passed away on January 4, 2000 at his residence in Greenville, OH. He had served 55 years in the fire service. He retired as captain for the Greenville Fire Department, was the fire prevention chief for the Ohio Fire Marshal's Office and was the editor of the Ohio Fire Chief News Magazine. He was a member of the Greenville Evangelical United Methodist Church, Greenville Masonic Lodge, Greenville Chapter and Council, and the Scottish Rite of Dayton. He is survived by his wife Gladys, his son Neil, daughter-in-law Mary Ann, three grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

## 1938

**Sarah (Sally) Beidleman Shuck** passed away on December 25, 1999, Spokane, WA. She is survived by her children, Bill and wife Lynn, Kathy Demchak, **Malinda Sautter '65** and husband Hal, Jane Johnson, nine grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.



## 1941

**William Cover** passed away on October 25, 1999. He was a veteran of WW II. He is survived by his wife **Emmajane Hilliard Cover '43**, and 4 daughters **Christine Cover Paterson '82**, Karene Wilson, Lynn Men-doza and Cynthia Wall.

**Jean Mayne Fulton** passed away on October 11, 1999 in Mt. Vernon, OH. She enjoyed doing research work at Battelle Memorial Institute; completed graduate studies at Miami University in Oxford, OH and was a retired science teacher in Morrow County. She is survived by a sister **Henrietta Mayne Hobbs '44** and six children.

## 1943

**Dorothy Armpriester Mericle** passed away on September 5, 1999. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau sorority. She is survived by her husband, James.

## 1944

**John Zezech** passed away on October 23, 1999. While attending Otterbein he was a member of the Choir, "O" Club, Student Government/Senate, track & baseball team and also the Zeta Phi Fraternity.

## 1946

**James E. Sheridan** passed away on January 25, 2000 in Davenport, FL. He was a veteran of WW II AAF. A charter member and past president of the Westerville Rotary Club, member and past president of the Otterbein Alumni Association, and also a member of the Otterbein "O" Club. He also was a member and past president of the Westerville

Board of Education. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Ruth, son James and daughter, Barbara; two brothers Norm & Elmer and one sister Margaret; two grandchildren Krista & Jill and numerous nieces and nephews.

## 1949

**William Agler** passed away on June 1, 1999. While attending Otterbein he was a member of the basketball & track team and the History & "O" Club. He was also a member of the Sigma Delta Phi Fraternity. He graduated from Miami University in Oxford, OH in 1955 with a Masters of Art degree in Education. He is survived by his wife Patricia, daughter Susan and sons Brian & Brent.

**Joseph Coughlin** passed away on June 19, 1999. While attending Otterbein he was a member of the Phi Alpha Theta and Eta Phi Mu Fraternities and the History club. He is survived by his wife **Elizabeth Mills Coughlin '47** and three sons Kevin, Michael & Brian.

**James L. Snow** passed away on September 2, 1998 in Marietta, OH. He was a WW II Air Force Veteran who served as a radio operator on a B-17. He was married to **Ida Rubino Snow '58**. They had two children Lt. Col. Michael D. Snow and Brenda L. Snow.

## 1950

**Dewey J. Long** passed away on November 28, 1999. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity. He is survived by his wife **Mildred Ware Long '50**.

## Bodas Together in Life and Death

**Harold Boda '25** died Jan. 11 in Dayton, Ohio, at 96 years old. His wife of 73 years, Marguerite Boda, died Jan. 23.

Following his graduation from Otterbein in 1925, Harold earned his master's degree from The Ohio State University. He went on to a career in education, serving 29 years as an assistant superintendent of the Dayton Public Schools.

Harold remained involved with Otterbein throughout his life, serving on the Board of Trustees from 1948 to 1973, when he was named an honorary trustee.

He was also very involved in the Dayton community, serving as president of the Dayton YMCA, and participating in the Dayton Society of Natural History, the Kiwanis Club of Dayton, the Dayton Executives Club, and the Ohio-West Virginia Area YMCA.

Harold was the recipient of the Presidents Club Citizens Legion of Honor Award and the E.L. Kohnle Humanitarian Award. He was also an honoree of the Dayton Chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

Marguerite was also active in many Dayton area organizations, including the Dayton Otterbein Women's Club.

The Bodas were active members of the Belmont United Methodist Church since 1927, where Harold taught Sunday School for 40 years and Marguerite served as a volunteer youth director for 10 years. Marguerite was also a member of the church's board of trustees.

A joint ceremony was held for the couple on Jan. 29. The Bodas were buried at Arlington Cemetery in Brookville, Ohio, their hometown.

Otterbein has learned that **Lloyd K. Perry**, Columbus, OH, passed away on October 25, 1996.

## 1951

**Raymond J. Holm** passed away on October 31, 1999. While at Otterbein he was a member of the Men's Glee Club. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army during World War II. He taught music at the Holgate school system for a year and also taught in the Coshocton system until retiring in 1978. He owned and operated his own piano tuning business. He was a member of Christ United Methodist Church of Ashland. He was also a member of the Coshocton VFW Post, the Coshocton Elks Lodge #376,

the Coshocton Retired Teachers Association, the Amateur Organ Association and the Piano Tuners Association. He is survived by a sister, Beatrice Holm of Ashland, OH.

**Rev. Herbert L. Lohr** passed away on March 19, 1999. He served 37 years in Western Pa. Conference as pastor; retired in 1986. He is survived by his wife Mary Elizabeth, sons Keith and **Dennis '71**, and grandchildren **Michelle Lohr '99**, Jennifer Lohr, Sarah Lohr and Kevin Lohr.

## 1952

**Joan Wallace Borg** passed away on November 7, 1999. Preceded in death by her parents Mr. & Mrs. W.W.



Wallace and her brother Mr. Robert Wallace. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau Sorority. She worked for Management Horizons; was a member of Worthington Presbyterian Church and Worthington Hills Country Club. She is survived by husband **Richard '53**; children Kathryn, Sandra and Rick; along with four grandsons, sister Helen Virginia (Jack)

and many nieces and nephews and their children.

**1964**

**Geoffrey Bemis Cotton**

passed away on January 24, 2000. He was employed by Columbia Gas, Columbus, OH. He is survived by his wife Linda; children, Lori, Henry, Jenny, Matt Arthur, Kelly Arthur and Sarah Arthur; and one brother, Arthur.

**1971**

**Jay Christopher Bower**

passed away on October 21, 1999 in Phoenix, AZ. In 1971 he joined Water Resources International, Inc. in Phoenix, AZ where he served as executive vice president for many years. He is survived by his wife Dolores, daughter Nichole, his parents Wayne & Doris,

two brothers and sisters-in-law Don & Julie Bower and Brad & Bethany Bower, and several nieces and nephews.

**1981**

Otterbein has received word that **Col. Paul H. Koreckis** passed away on January 1, 2000. He is survived by his wife Helen and three children Paula, Karen and Michael. ■

## PHILANTHROPY AT OTTERBEIN

### Pack Establishes Scholar in Residence, Distinguished Lecture Series

Vernon Pack '50 recently gave \$1 million to Otterbein to establish the Vernon L. Pack Scholar in Residence and Distinguished Lecture Series. This gift will continue a tradition of selfless giving that Pack has created throughout his life.

Pack is a man that many people have met and few will ever forget. Whether he is remembered for his jovial greetings, his distinctive voice, his rich sense of humor, his generosity to worthy causes, his zealous organizational skills or his computer-like memory for historical facts, Pack has a personality trait to spark the interest of any person he meets. According to Pack, his main complaint in life is that "there are too many people in the U.S. that I haven't met."

Pack was born in Washington, D.C. in 1925. Three years later, he was adopted by Arthur N. Pack of Princeton, New Jersey. In 1933, Pack moved with his family to northern New Mexico, where his father, the co-founder of *Nature Magazine*, purchased 30,000 acres of land that eventually became a prominent guest-cattle ranch, known nationally as Ghost Ranch.

Pack finished high school at McCurdy, a United Brethren mission school in Santa Cruz, New Mexico. Since McCurdy and Otterbein were both affiliated with the former United Brethren Church, Pack came to Otterbein in 1946. He was the first student from New Mexico.

Prior to studying at Otterbein, Pack served in the U.S. Navy for three years during World War II. Half that time was spent as a pharmacist's mate, second class.

Pack has high regard for the faculty he studied under at Otterbein, most notably Harold Hancock, L. William Streck and A.P. Rosselot.

Pack was very involved with campus life. He was a member of Zeta Phi fraternity, serving as its treasurer his senior year, and wrote for the *Tan and Cardinal* for four years, including a semester writing the column "Surprise PACK-age." He was also an interfraternity sports official, a member of Student Council and the vice president of his freshman class.

With his many activities, Pack got to know most of the students on campus. "I knew over 900 of them," he said. "I made it a game. I learned their hometowns and hobbies." He also earned several other nicknames from his friends, including "VP," "Mr. Trivia," "Vern," and "Vermin."

After graduating from Otterbein, Pack went on to teach at various schools in central Ohio and earned his master's degree in education from The Ohio State University in 1958. For over 28 years, he taught social studies to sixth and seventh grade students with a special emphasis on his favorite subject, Ohio history.

"My teaching was unorthodox. I would start with current events and one thing would lead to another," Pack said. "I kept clippings in the classroom and if a certain subject came up, I would have one of the students find a file on it. I taught kids to research."

Pack retired from teaching in 1979. Still an avid historian, he keeps a "personal library" of nearly 20,000 slides, over 170,000 clippings and over 600 books about Ohio or by Ohioans.



Vernon Pack, right, who recently gave the college over one million dollars, poses with President Brent DeVore (left) and Executive Director of Development Jack Pietila '62.



Writing about Ohio history is one of Pack's favorite pastimes. He has written 73 articles published in OHIO CUES, a magazine with readers throughout the world. He has also published four mini-books. He is currently researching the history of the Church of the Master UMC where he has been a member since 1947.

He also created a series of 100 programs with narration for the Central Ohio Radio Reading Service (CORRS). In these 28-minute programs, Pack focused on a variety of Ohio topics, including communications, people, businesses and museums, ending each program with a poem about Ohio or by an Ohioan. "I took great joy in CORRS because people who couldn't read could still listen," he said.

Never having been married, Pack has time to tackle a busy schedule and stays involved with friends, the community and hobbies, which include reading, photography, playing piano, presenting slide shows to numerous groups and traveling. He has been in all 50 states and has visited Europe several times. When he is not traveling, Pack's favorite activity is reading weekly at an adult day care center.

He is active as the historian/archivist of the Rotary Club of Westerville; he has been on its editorial board for 20 years. He especially appreciates its international motto, "Service Above Self," something he has practiced throughout his life.

He is a member of the Westerville Historical Society, where he has been a past-president four terms and founded its newsletter nearly 40 years. He is also a charter member of the Amalthea Historical Society and the local American Legion Post #171; he has served as its Adjutant and Finance Officer and has been its historian for 45 years. He has been a member of the Westerville Jaycees. His anonymous donation of \$12,000 was credited at the time as encouraging the public to reach the goal for raising money to construct the city's first public swimming pool. He has won many awards, including the Sertoma Club's Service to Mankind Award in 1995.

Pack has followed the example of his father in providing money for excellent causes. Among his father's philanthropies were creating the hospital at Espanola, New Mexico, establishing the world-famous Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum near Tucson, and donating his father's Ghost Ranch to the Presbyterian Church USA.

According to Pack, his favorite "worthy group" is Otterbein as evidenced from his recent endowment. According to its terms, every other year a Distinguished Scholar will be in residence at Otterbein for up to a year. On alternating years, distinguished speakers will be invited to campus as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series to address important current issues that will allow the Otterbein community to reflect on ethical, spiritual and social issues.

A modest man, Pack planned to create this endowment anonymously. Several decades ago, he also anonymously created the Eugene C. Reynolds Memorial Award.

Pack stays involved with Otterbein because of its influence upon his life. He says he provided the endowment because it is "one way that an Otterbein graduate can demonstrate his appreciation to a remarkable institution."

He says that his years at Otterbein were his happiest. "I received a splendid education, sharpened certain talents and made long-lasting friends."

## Annual Fund Update

In the final stages of the 1999-2000 fiscal year, which ends June 30, the Annual Fund is showing growth over figures in the past five years. According to Director of Annual Giving Jennifer Beharry, the Fund's end-of-March total of over \$420,000 is \$26,000 over the total at this time last year.

The Annual Fund has also seen an increase in the size of the average gift. Gifts to the Annual Fund range from \$5 to over \$10,000, but even the smallest gift makes a difference. "Our average gift this year is \$112, but all gifts are important," Beharry said. "The Annual Fund is currently above previous years, but the College's needs are also increasing and we depend on support from alumni, parents and friends to meet those needs."

The Annual Fund's success is partly the result of the fall and winter phonathons, which brought in over \$215,000. Currently, class agents are working to get fellow alumni involved and finish the fiscal year with record figures. Gifts must be received by June 30 to be included in the 2000 Honor Roll.

Gifts to the Annual Fund can now be made on-line through the Otterbein On-line Community, which you can access at [www.otterbein.edu](http://www.otterbein.edu). For security purposes, you will need to register with your name and ID. Your ID is the number on the mailing label of this magazine. For more information about the Annual Fund, call Jennifer Beharry at (614) 823-1400. For more information about the On-line Community, contact Patricia Kessler at (614) 823-1600 or [pkessler@otterbein.edu](mailto:pkessler@otterbein.edu).

## Footes Establish Trust

**Wendell '60** and **Judith Lovejoy '58 Foote** have established a \$1 million charitable remainder trust for Otterbein.

Judy, a Pennsylvania native, and Wendell, the son of a farmer from Fredericktown, Ohio, met at Otterbein while both were students. After graduating, Judy worked as an elementary school teacher, while Wendell used his bachelor's degree in science to work for several companies, including Xerox, before starting his own company, Specialty Polymers Inc. in Woodburn, Oregon. He recently sold Specialty Polymers and retired. Both Wendell and Judy enjoy all outdoor activities, especially golf, skiing, hiking and fly fishing.

The Footes currently live in Kalama, Washington, and serve as Presidents Club chairs for Otterbein's National Volunteer Council.

## Otterbein Receives Gift from Shawen Trust

On Aug. 26, 1997, Otterbein friend Robert Shawen established a charitable remainder trust providing for his wife, Doris, and designating money to be given to Otterbein College and DePauw University, his alma mater.

Shawen's relationship with Otterbein was established through his brother and sister, Charles Edwin Jr. and Martha Jane, both graduates of the class of 1930. Shawen continued to be a friend of Otterbein until his death on Nov. 24, 1997.

Doris died on January 31, 2000, leaving the balance of her husband's trust to be distributed to Otterbein and DePauw. From this trust, Otterbein will receive one gift of



\$500,000, as well as a second gift of at least \$500,000 to be granted later. The money will establish The Shawen Memorial Scholarship Fund in honor of Robert's brother, sister and parents, Dr. Charles E. and Agnes B. Shawen.

## Achter Creates Endowment for Music

After 25 years as the chairperson of the Department of Music, Morton Achter is retiring at the end of the academic year and leaving behind a legacy. He has established the Morton J. Achter Music Faculty Professional Development Fund for professional development activities by full or part-time faculty of the Department of Music.

To celebrate Achter's 25 years of service to Otterbein, a gala event will be held on Friday, June 2, 2000. The proceeds from this event will go to the fund.

The evening will begin at 7:00 p.m. in Riley Auditorium of the Battelle Fine Arts Center with a concert of Achter's works from years past, including several duo-piano pieces with Michael Haberkorn. Following the gala concert, there will be an invitation-only reception at Little Turtle Country Club. Money raised at the event will go to the Morton J. Achter Music Faculty Professional Development Fund.

The evening is being organized by Department of Music professors Gary Tirey and Lyle Barkhymer. "Dr. Achter spent a quarter of a century at Otterbein and has made many contributions in many ways. This is a chance for people to recognize his contributions and show their appreciation," Tirey said.

For information about the concert or dinner, or to receive an invitation, contact Karen Volpe at (614) 823-1508 or [kvolpe@otterbein.edu](mailto:kvolpe@otterbein.edu). To contribute to the Morton J. Achter Music Faculty Professional Development Fund, contact Director of Capital Giving Susan Wilson at (614) 823-1405.

## No Waterloo for this Napoleon

The musical "Napoleon" was successfully presented March 3-5 by the Department of Music. Good publicity, good performances and great support by our loyal alumni made this venture a winner. Next stop: London, West End for a spectacular opening.

Special thanks go to a group of loyal alumni who contributed the necessary funds to bring this project to fruition. We couldn't have done it without you! We reached out to a select group of alumni whom we thought would be receptive to helping fund a project like this. And we weren't disappointed. The necessary funds were contributed by 35 alumni households and one corporation.

The surprise was that these folks are from as far away as California and New England. It was heartening to see contributions from all over the country, as many donors didn't even have the opportunity to see the production. This confirms something we already knew: loyalty has no boundary lines. Special recognition to **Douglas '63 and Mary Pat Knight** whose significant contribution named them producers of the event along with Borden Chemical. A listing of other generous donors follows:

### Napoleon Patrons

Hugh '62 and Liz '62 Allen  
William O. Amy

Anonymous  
Linda J. Bixley '67  
Kay '40 and Randall O. '40 Campbell  
Margaret Cantelmo '56  
Christine L. Cox '87  
Edmund '58 and Diane '59 Daily Cox  
Thomas '61 and Judy '61 Croghan  
David '55 and Barbara '54 Davis  
Dave '61 and Sara Deever '61  
Hazel Dover  
Janice G. Dunphy '57  
Robert '54 and Pat Eschbach  
James and Jodi Grissinger  
Dorothy Harbach '38  
Vivian W. Harper  
William V. Harper and Associates  
James '53 and Margaret Heinisch  
Alan '69 and Nancy '69 Howenstine  
Robert A. Kennedy '87  
John T. Lloyd '60  
Doug MacCallum '78  
Edward '58 and Connie '60 Mentzer  
Maria Kepple Moseley '48  
Teresa Anne Petch '51  
Lois E. Snyder '48  
Mary Ann Floyd Sparenberg '63  
Kathryn Felsenthal Stephens '97  
Ruth Harner Studer '56  
Mariam Gress Szanyi '54  
Wade '47 and Sylvia '47 Vance  
Robert '56 and Annbeth '55 Wilkinson  
Robert H. '50 and Betty B. Young

### Corporate Sponsor

Bordon Chemical Inc.

## New Endowed Scholarships and Endowed Awards

In 1999, **John and Winifred Hoyt** established an Endowed Loan Special Project. This special project provides interest-free loans to fulltime undergraduate and/or graduate students with financial need, especially students pursuing Nursing, Business, Education, Science, Engineering, and Athletic Training.

**Mrs. Lois McFarland** of New Albany, Ohio established an endowed scholarship in memory of her husband, **Dr. Charles R. McFarland '49**. It is a scholarship for majors in Life Science, for freshman or transfer student "endowed scholars," and students with financial need beginning next year.

In 1983, **Morris '36 and Marjorie Allton** established an endowed scholarship for fulltime endowed scholars. **Reverend Albert T. '49 and Alice Walters Stoddard '49** gave the contribution to activate this endowed scholarship this year. Rev. Allton worked in rural sociology as public affairs director and vice president, was an United Methodist pastor, Otterbein's director of Admission from 1944-48, and a Kentucky Colonel.



Compiled by Jenny Hill

## Lifelong Learning

## Calling All Cardinals!



Cardinal Migration 2000 is taking flight for Boston, Massachusetts, August 17-20! Otterbein alumni and friends will be staying at the historic Boston Park Plaza Hotel. Participants will tour and learn about Plymouth Plantation, the Mayflower II, the Freedom Trail, the Old North Church, Ocean Spray Cranberry Company, Faneuil Hall Marketplace/Quincy Market, Lexington, Concord and Sleepy Hollow Cemetery. We have also scheduled other exciting activities, including visits to Harvard University, the Isabella Stewart Garden Museum, the John F. Kennedy Library, the Hemingway Exhibit, as well as a whale-watching trip and Boston Harbor cruises. We will also take a bus tour to Salem, the site of the 1692 Witch Trials. A special dinner will be held Friday, August 18, at the Olde Union Oyster House. In addition, we will offer other group activities and time to explore Boston and Cambridge on your own.

So join fellow Otterbein alumni and friends for an historic lifelong learning event in Boston! Registration information will be coming soon.

## Medications in the Millennium

Creating a healthier Otterbein community, Otterbein brought pharmacists Charlotte A. Kenreigh and Linda Timm Wagner to campus on March 7 to talk to alumni and friends about Medications in the Millennium.

The pharmacists talked about the variety of new prescription and over-the-counter medications coming to market that allow people to live longer and control or cure disease. Kenreigh and Wagner also discussed herbal medications, which are becoming increasingly popular for the natural treatment of general ailments, as well as general safety issues involved with taking any medication.

In addition, Kenreigh and Wagner discussed aging members of our society and what relatives need to know about the variety and dosages of medications being taken by their loved ones.

## Kids in the Middle

Otterbein took a look at the younger generation of education on April 4 with the Lifelong Learning program *Creating a Safety Net for Kids "in the Middle": What Middle Schools Must Do*.

Otterbein College Professor of Education **Marlene Lansman Deringer '69** led the discussion, which looked at issues of middle school reform, including how middle schools should differ from junior highs and how teachers and administrators can create smaller learning communi-

## Alumni College 2000

Sharpen your pencils and get ready to take notes because Alumni College classes start July 21-23, 2000! Come back to the classrooms at Otterbein once more for a wide variety of classes, including Ethics in Society and Business, the Internet, Children's Literature, Genealogy, the Otterbein Common Book Experience, the United Methodist Church, and Sports Management for Active People. Also on this year's schedule are courses on The Japanese-American Conflict in the Pacific: War Without Mercy 1941-45 and Wetlands of Ohio, which will include a Saturday class and a Sunday field trip.

Look for information coming soon and plan to come back to campus and relive your days as a student at Otterbein!

ties within a larger school that will advocate for each child, create a positive environment, and promote personal and academic growth.

Deringer discussed the problems that children face in the rough transition between childhood and adulthood and the role of families, churches, communities and middle schools in making this transition easier for kids "in the middle."

## Lifelong Learning Looks at Natural Methods of Medical Practices by Native Americans

Otterbein Professor Carol Engle, R.N. shed some light on the medical practices of Native Americans on Feb. 8 as part of Otterbein's Lifelong Learning program.

Her discussion centered around the question, "What health practices can we learn from Native Americans?" She discussed the importance of balance and harmony with the earth, and respect for nature and all creatures, as well as the idea of health and disease as one of dis-ease, or being out of balance with nature.

For many years, these Shamons have used plants, herbs and other natural methods of healing. Health care professionals across the nation are beginning to realize the positive effects some of these methods have on illnesses.

As one medicine man stated, "the ancient prophecies state (that) with the new age approaching, it is now time for (Native Americans) to share our knowledge and work for peace on the earth."

Throughout the discussion, Engle emphasized the privacy of the Native American culture and the respect and understanding that Americans must have when approaching Native American issues.



## Regional Events



Naples, FL, Feb. 19, 2000



Orlando, FL, Feb. 20, 2000



Dallas, TX, before a men's basketball game last November



Toledo Planning Committee

### Junebug Jamboree

Dayton area alumni, family and friends are gearing up for an afternoon and evening of food, singing, story telling and fellowship at the fourth annual Otterbein June Bug Jamboree on June 24 at the home of **Bill '48** and **Helen '47 LeMay**.

This year's Jamboree will feature an old-fashioned pig roast, a songfest, and an Otterbein story telling contest. Participants are encouraged to share their own, or handed down, Otterbein story.

The pig roast and party will go on rain or shine so bring your family to greet old friends — and make new ones. Look for information coming soon.

Special thanks to **Ed '58** and **Connie '60 Mentzer** of the planning committee, and **Bill '48** and **Helen '47 LeMay** for the use of their beautiful home.

### Step Aboard!

On Saturday, June 17, Otterbein alumni and friends in the Greater Toledo area are invited to attend a dinner and lifelong learning program on board the historic S.S. Willis B. Boyer.

The S.S. Willis B. Boyer was built in 1911 and "retired" in 1980 after 69 years of service on Lake Huron and Lake Superior. Known as the "king of the lake freighters," the Boyer was restored and has been open to visitors since July of 1987.

Otterbein College has reserved the S.S. Willis B. Boyer for the evening of Saturday, June 17 for Toledo area alumni to experience the history of the ship with a tour, dinner and a lifelong learning presentation about life aboard the S.S. Willis B. Boyer and on the Great Lakes.

Seating is limited, so look for information coming soon and register for an evening out of the pages of American history.

Special thanks to the planning committee and **Mike '63** and **Sue Duckworth** for their leadership in chairing the event.

### Wild in Western Pennsylvania

Western Pennsylvania area alumni and friends will come together on May 6 at Camp Allegheny in Stoystown, PA for an afternoon and evening of fun, food and festivity with something for everyone, including horseback riding, hiking, horseshoe-throwing and a special pond life study. There will also be a nine-hole golf outing at North Winds Golf Course for the golfer in the family.

Remember to register by May 1 to participate in all the activities Otterbein has planned for you. Many thanks to members of the planning committee for planning a fun-filled family event.



## Reunions

### Memories of the Millennium!

Reminisce about your days at Otterbein at Alumni Weekend 2000 on June 9-11! This year we will be celebrating reunions for the classes of '50, '55, '60, '65, & '70, as well as Honored Alumni Classes from before 1950. Enjoy a weekend with fellow alumni full of receptions and live entertainment. This year's special events include the "America's Greatest Generation" WWII Veteran's Reunion and the burying of the Otterbein Time Capsule 2099, among other fun and exciting activities. Attend the Friday night Jazz band show, remember the Krause Brothers-style shredded beef and chicken, and have our caricature artist draw you and your family or friends!

We will also be honoring this year's National Alumni Award Winners, including Honorary Alumni Morton Achter and Mary Pat Knight, Distinguished Service Award winner **Bill Freeman '57**, Special Achievement Award winners **Myron Campbell '77** and **Mary Hall '64**, and Distinguished Alumnus **Francis M. Pottinger III '51**.

Information will be coming soon, so plan to make this weekend special by coming home to Otterbein!

## Service

### You Otter Volunteer

With the success of last year's event, we are happy to announce Campus Beautification Day 2000 on Saturday, May 20!

The day will give alumni and friends of the College the chance to participate in a one-day beautification project just before Alumni Weekend and graduation. Participants will perform basic cleaning and gardening tasks to make the campus beautiful for summer guests. Gloves and equipment will be provided to all workers.

This year, all participants will receive a free T-shirt. Babysitting and refreshments will be provided.

Look for information coming soon and sign up to keep Otterbein beautiful! Special Thanks to **Gay Cathers '84** for chairing this event.

### Alumni Office: 614-823-1956

#### Otterbein College National Alumni Calendar

5/6/00	Western Pennsylvania Alumni Gathering
5/20/00	Campus Beautification Day
6/9-10	Alumni Weekend 2000
6/17	Toledo Alumni Gathering
6/24	Dayton June Bug Jamboree
7/21-23	Alumni College 2000
10/21	Homecoming

## OARS

### Baltimore OARS Finish Training

On Jan. 22, Otterbein's latest group of alumni volunteers completed Otterbein Alumni Recruiting Students (OARS) training in Baltimore, Maryland. Continuing in a strong tradition of service, these 11 volunteers will begin working with the Admission Office to identify prospective students and refer them to Otterbein's Admission counselors, attend college fairs in their communities, send congratulation letters to accepted students and their parents, send local newspaper articles on outstanding high school students to the Admission Office and host going-away receptions for parents and families of students coming to Otterbein.

OARS currently has 36 members who have received training in Maryland, Florida, Virginia and at Otterbein. Future training sessions are being planned for Indianapolis, Indiana, and Chicago, Illinois.

Special thanks to OARS Regional Representative **Amy Hawkins Maerhofer '76** for arranging the Baltimore training session and to Volunteer Instructor **Fred DeBell '76**.

For more information on how you can become an OARS volunteer, contact the Alumni Office at (614) 823-1650.

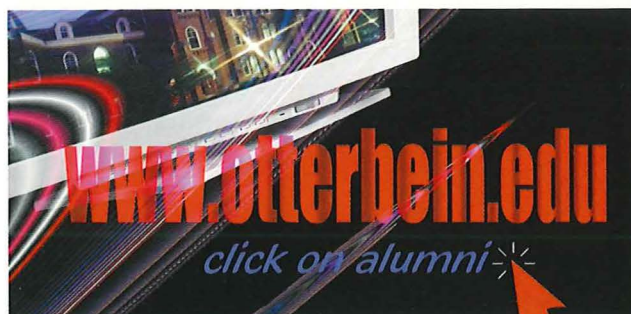
## Marketing

### Otterbein Credit Card

Otterbein College, in conjunction with MBNA America® Bank, is offering alumni and members of the Otterbein Community the opportunity to apply for the MBNA Platinum Plus Visa® credit card. Each time an account is opened and each time the credit card is used to make a purchase, MBNA America will make a contribution to Otterbein College to help support its activities.

A picture of Towers Hall and the College logo appear on the face of the credit card to identify the cardholder's affinity to Otterbein College. The MBNA Platinum Plus card provides added bonuses like a free Year-End Summary of Charges that provides you with an accurate recap of your purchase activity by date and category of spending.

For further information about the terms associated with the Otterbein College Affinity Card, call the Office of Alumni Relations at (614) 823-1956.







Towers  
Otterbein College  
One Otterbein College  
Westerville, OH 43081

# FORE!



## Now You Can Hit the Links in Otterbein Style!

Through the efforts of the Otterbein National Alumni Association, special arrangements have been made with the Athletic Department and Ping, Inc. to offer our alumni and friends an opportunity to own a stand-up carry golf bag identical to those carried by our OAC Championship team. We are pleased to offer the bags at cost plus shipping charges.

You will be proud to own this bag, which symbolizes the great tradition established by our nationally recognized golf team, and your alma mater.

Cost of each bag is \$100. Club covers are also available for \$15 for a set of three. Otterbein's name and mascot are prominently displayed! For more information or to order, contact Greg Johnson at 614-823-1956.

