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Inside: Breaking
ground on
Roush
Hall

OTTERBEIN • COLLEGE

TOWERS

■ AN OTTERBEIN EDUCATION PREPARES THE OLIN FAMILY FOR CARRYING OUT THE U.M. MINISTRY



■ AMMONS COMMENTS ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION IN THE CHURCH TODAY ■

■ THE CHURCH-RELATEDNESS OF MICHAEL CHRISTIAN '61 ■ U.M. BISHOP EDESEL

WINTER 1992

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WINTER 1992

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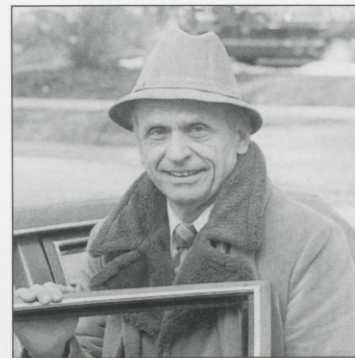
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About the cover: The face of the United Methodist ministry may change but the message is the same. Three members of the Olin family pursue their Christian vocations in their own manner, each to his or her own calling. Cover art by Evangelia Philippidis.

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FOREWORD

College as a "Fertile Field"

An educated clergy! That was the dream of John Wesley, founder of Methodism. A call from God and a commitment to Jesus Christ went without saying...add to those an education, and you have a "winning" combination for the church.

Wesley's dream for an educated clergy gave impetus to Methodism's early involvement in higher education. The Classics—in original languages—and Religion and Philosophy were the core curriculum: Liberal Arts! In addition to Bible study, John Wesley recognized the importance of a broad, general knowledge.

The wildest 18th century dreams didn't begin to perceive the almost endless possibilities that are available today in colleges like Otterbein. Our church-related institutions are *whole-life* learning centers: places where minds and spirits and bodies are nurtured and stretched.

Otterbein College offers students an environment where ideas can be tested, vocations can be explored and life can be experienced. The student body, including many races and cultures, provides opportunity for learning to live and work and play and pray with others before stepping out into the colorful complexity of the world which God has created. "Politically correct" was a goal before it had a phrase to describe it!

Wesley's dream has expanded to the 20th century church's dream, not

only for an educated and committed clergy, but also for an educated and committed laity, in *all* walks of life. At Otterbein, students can discover that Christian vocation includes the work of pastor or missionary and may also be the way a Christian person pursues *any* life work—teaching, nursing, researching, coaching, home-making, merchandising...

Church-related colleges like Otterbein are a fertile field where the seeds of Christian calling and commitment can be cultivated into maturity with pride and without apology.

This issue of *Towers* will en flesh the brief skeleton of these words with lively examples of real people in real life. ■

—Edsel A. Ammons
Bishop, West Ohio Conference
The United Methodist Church
Trustee, Otterbein College



IN BRIEF

Roushes Come Forward as Major Donors to "Cornerstone" Campaign

The College's Board of Trustees voted to accept a \$2 million donation from Edwin L. '47 and Mary Louise '45 Roush for construction of an academic multi-purpose facility. The contribution, the single largest in the history of the College, bolsters support for Otterbein's "Cornerstone for the Future" campaign announced last fall.

Over the years, the Roushes have donated significantly to other capital campaigns including the renovations of Memorial Stadium and Dunlap-King Hall as well as numerous scholarships.

"Dubbs" Roush attended Otterbein three years before enlisting in the U.S. Navy with which he served three years, mostly in the South Pacific.

After his Naval discharge in 1946, he married Marilou Harold and returned to campus to complete his bachelor's degree in education. During his senior year, he was quarterback and captain of the 1946 Ohio Athletic Conference championship football team.

After a brief career in professional football, Roush taught and coached in two local high schools. He left the field of education to open a small hardware store in uptown Westerville in 1951. Five years later Roush Honda began as an offspring of the hardware store's motorcycle line. The business branched into auto sales in 1974.



ED SYGUDA

Marilou and Dubbs Roush at the future site of Roush Hall, an academic multi-purpose building to be built on the northwest corner of Park and Grove streets.

Roush Sporting Goods began as a separate business in 1971.

In the meantime, Marilou managed a full-time job as homemaker and mother to the Roushes' five children, two of whom attended Otterbein—Wendy '71 and Cynthia '80.

Dubbs has served his alma mater in numerous capacities throughout the years. He has served as trustee since 1968, including terms as vice chairman and chairman. He has been a member of the Executive committee and chairman of the Long Range Planning, Development and Public Relations committees. He currently serves as chairman of the Facilities committee. In addition, Roush was instrumental in forming the Otterbein "O" Club,

of which he served as first president.

Active in the community as well, Dubbs was awarded an honorary Doctor of Business Administration degree by the College in 1982. In 1988, the Alumni Association recognized him with the Distinguished Alumnus Award.

The 65,000-square-foot academic multi-purpose building will be named Roush Hall and will house academic departments, multi-media classrooms, contemporary conference rooms, a computer center, a public art gallery and administrative offices. With the Roush donation, pledges and gifts now total \$4 million toward the \$6.5 million goal.

Paving the Way to Roush Hall

There are monuments to immortalize presidents and memorials to recall efforts of unsung heroes. Now it's your turn. The "unsung heroes" of Otterbein—our alumni and friends—will have a chance memorialize your College experiences and enhance the surroundings of Roush Hall with a per-

sonalized paving brick to be used in a pathway to the new structure.

An Alumni Walk or Alumni Grove is being planned which would be paved with bricks etched with donors' names, degrees and class years. It will be a permanent and highly visible indicator of the support shown by the benefactors of Otterbein. At the same time, it will tastefully enhance the area

surrounding Roush Hall and nearby Towers Hall.

Details are still being worked out on this giving opportunity, but plans are to offer a variety of contribution levels to afford everyone the chance to participate.

Please watch for more information to be published or mailed to you in the near future.

Paradise Discussed

Otterbein welcomed a world-renowned author and a Nigerian professor who specializes in women's issues as part of International/Foreign Language Week, Feb. 10-14.

Chilean author Elena Castedo spoke about the challenges writing in two languages. She wrote her award winning novel, *Paradise*, first in English and then again in Spanish as a completely separate work and not a mere translation.

Nigerian Professor Mary Mbosowo spoke on "The Changing Role of Women in African Literature." Currently, she is researching sexual harassment of women in the work place in Nigeria and the role of rural African women in contemporary African literature.

The week also included presentations by Otterbein's foreign students and students who have traveled abroad. Faculty also used their regular classes to focus on topics of an international nature.

Kinderchor Join in Flora Arrangement

Visitors to AmeriFlora in Columbus this summer will be able to hear the Otterbein Kinderchor play a small part in the huge exhibition.

This children's choir, directed by Assistant Professor Amy Chivington, was chosen to record the part of the back-up vocals on the song *I Love This Land* which will be played in the Discovery Pavilion on the AmeriFlora grounds.

Grammy Award winning country music star T. Graham Brown sings the lead vocals on the song and even if you're not a country music fan, you probably have heard him. Brown sings the *Run for the Border* ditty on the Taco Bell commercials.

The Discovery Pavilion will contain an 180 degree 21-screen, 65 projector surround sound production of *I Love This Land* and "The Seeds of Genius" display. The song will be played four times an hour for 176 days. More than four million visitors are expected to pass through the exhibition.

Convo Honors King

On Jan. 20 Otterbein College held the sixth annual convocation to honor Martin Luther King with Dr. Elaine

College Archives Meets Modern Technology

The Otterbein Room is entering the computer age. A computer and software program were recently purchased to allow for better collection management, and the process of logging each and every item in the archives is underway.

"This quarter we really started working," says Archivist Melinda Gilpin. She has three students assisting her with the work. One student enters data while the others work on a complete inventory of the facility.

The first step was entering information about the books stored in the archives. About 300 have been cataloged with about 1,000 yet to go. The title, author, year published and a great deal of other information is recorded about each book. However, information about who donated the book all too often is omitted from the record. "Our biggest problem is that we don't know where these things come from," Gilpin explains.

In this process, the books are brought out of the storage room so the size, number of pages and condition can be recorded. Once the entire computer inventory process is finished, Gilpin says she will undertake "serious preservation and with this information I can go to those items that need the most help." The computer program even allows Gilpin to record where an item will be shelved so it can be more easily retrieved when needed.

This process will be repeated again with photos, periodicals, artifacts and other items.

Gilpin's efforts have turned up some surprises including books autographed by Alexander Hamilton, Helen Keller, Robert Frost and Carl Sandburg. "Every time I open a box I'm surprised," she says. She has also been surprised at the value of some of the rare books in the Otterbein collection. A few have an estimated value of \$3,000 or \$4,000.

Gilpin hopes to have all items in the Otterbein Room cataloged by the time students return next fall. "This summer I can just hibernate up here with the computer," Gilpin says.

She predicts this computer catalog will help researchers the most. They will be able to quickly call up all the materials pertaining to their area of interest. "In the past it depended pretty much on how much the archivist knew," Gilpin explains. The card catalog, while it listed many items, gave no clue as to where to find those items in the library.

"This is a more consistent format and this will be much quicker and more efficient to use," Gilpin says. ■

Bell as the keynote speaker. The theme of her speech was "Cultural Diversity: The Emerging Community."

Bell is employed by the Columbus Public Schools where she has worked as an elementary classroom teacher, a Language-Development Reading teacher and program coordinator for the Department of Federal and State Programs. Currently, she is Principal of Franklinton Literature-Based Language Arts Alternative Elementary School.

"Cultural diversity is something we all have a notion about," Bell said. She added that while society is striving to achieve cultural diversity, the work Martin Luther King, Jr. began is still in process. "We cannot deliver this emerging community without labor pains," Bell warned. People cannot restrict themselves to one way of view-

ing the world, she said, and that opening our eyes to diversity and different cultures will not be easy or quickly accomplished."

The convocation also included performance by the Otterbein Gospel Choir. Other events held on campus to commemorate the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday included a film festival held throughout the week, art exhibits in Courtright Memorial Library and Dunlap Gallery, a memorial service in the chapel and a performance of "Can I Speak for You, Brother." This production weaves dance, poetry, storytelling, puppetry, drama, speeches and music into an epic story of the American Black's struggle for dignity and decency. ■

SPORTS

Cards Roll to Third Straight OAC Basketball Title

The Otterbein men's basketball team, scorned by prognosticators early, clinched a third straight outright Ohio Athletic Conference (OAC) crown with games to spare.

The Cardinals, under 20th-year head coach Dick Reynolds '65, carried a four-game lead into the final three games of the regular season. The squad, ranked 19th among NCAA Division III schools, earned the undisputed title Feb. 12, holding off a feisty Ohio Northern team, 73-70, in Westerville. The win, Otterbein's 28th straight in the Rike Center, extended the squad's winning streak to 14.

A third straight conference title proved sweet for Otterbein, picked second to Muskingum in pre-season coaches and media polls. The Cardinals entered the season minus three starters, including all-America James Bradley, from a team that won a school and conference record 30 wins and advanced to the Final Four of the NCAA Division III Tournament.

The heart and soul of the squad, senior guards Jerry Dennis, from Columbus, and Larry Laisure, from Port Washington, Ohio, were back, along with a pair of proven sophomores, forward Nick Gutman, from Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and Randy Linkous, from Sparta, Ohio. Little used forward Mike Couzins, a junior from Columbus, rounded out the starting lineup.

Playing a strong December schedule, Otterbein recorded wins in five of its first eight games, including a 65-64 verdict over pre-season favorite Muskingum at home Dec. 11. The Cardinals began their current winning streak (14 games as this magazine went to press) in the 12th annual "O" Club Classic, sweeping Earlham (Ind.), 100-63, and Centre (Ky.), 89-65, Dec. 28-29.

Former Earlham center Donn Rathburn, a sophomore from Ashville, Ohio, joined the team in mid-December. The 6-6 player, coming off the bench, averages 10.1 points and 4.3 rebounds a game.

Gutman, Dennis and Laisure, each a candidate for all-America honors, and Couzins join Rathburn in double

digit scoring. Gutman, averaging 20.3 points an outing, led his team and the OAC in scoring. Dennis chipped in 18.2 points a game, Couzins, 12.9, and Laisure, 12.8.

Otterbein, under Reynolds (354-182), has won or shared the OAC title nine times, taking the conference crown in six of the last eight seasons (1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1991 and 1992).

The squad, 19-3 overall and 14-1 in the OAC, with three regular-season games yet to be played, headed into the post-season OAC Tournament (Feb. 24-29) as the number one seed. The conference tournament winner receives an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Tournament. Otterbein has won two of the last three OAC Tournaments (1991 and 1989).

Gonya, Kok Hit 1,000-Point Mark

Veterans Elaine Gonya and Becky Kok, who accounted for about 60 percent of Otterbein's offensive output last season, were back at it again this year.

With just three games remaining in regular-season play, Gonya, a senior from Fremont, Ohio, had tallied 1,190 points and Kok, a senior from Dublin, Ohio, was right behind at 1,152.

The pair sit fourth and fifth, respectively, behind former Otterbein players Lori Povich (1983-87), 1,423 points, Kathy Cole (1982-84), 1,395 points, and Amy Bates (1987-90), 1,342 points, in the 1,000-point club.

Under first-year head coach Connie Richardson, Otterbein, 7-13 overall, the women's team probably won't win the national championship this season, but they are leading NCAA Division III with a 76.5 free-throw shooting percentage (309-of-404).

The Cardinals boast the top three free-throw shooters in the Ohio Athletic Conference—Aimee Bonner (86.1 percent), a freshman from Tuscarawas, Ohio; Becky Kok (85.3 percent); and Amy Hubbard (79.4 percent), a freshman from Chandlersville, Ohio. ■

LETTERS

We want to hear from you! Please send letters intended for publications to Letters to the Editor, Towers, Otterbein College, Office of College Relations, Westerville, Ohio 43081.

Linmoor a Positive Experience

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Patti Kennedy for her outstanding work on the article entitled "Making Scholars Out of 7th Graders" in your Fall 1991 issue. She managed to convey a realistic and emotionally engaging portrait of our efforts to improve the futures of deserving youngsters at Linmoor Middle School.

I need to clarify one point made in the article. When I refer to a negative student culture within the school, I am not implying that Linmoor should be characterized in this way. All schools have a student subculture which reflects negative thinking, undesirable social influences, and poor achievement. Linmoor faculty and staff work hard to keep the influence of this subculture to a minimum. The Linmoor-Otterbein program has been designed to aid in school efforts to counteract negative influences. George Rick, Principal, and his faculty have every reason to be proud of Linmoor.

Again, thank you for drawing attention to the Linmoor-Otterbein program. All partners in this enterprise hope that we will have more good news to share with you in the future.

Harriet R. Fayne, Ph.D.
Chair, Education Department

An added element

Those receiving correspondence or printed materials from the College may begin to notice the appearance of a new element being added to our logo type. A rendering of Towers Hall joins the words "Otterbein College," identifying material that is Otterbein-related. The art is being phased in as new stationery and literature are printed. ■





WHO'S MINDING THE MINISTRY

THE CHANGING FACE OF THE UNITED METHODIST MINISTRY

by Patti Kennedy

Most people identify the ministry with the sermon served up at the Sunday pulpit. ✿ But there is much more involved in the ministry than the face you see at the front of the church once a week. ✿ Next time you slide into your seat for the Sunday lecture, consider all the varied skills the minister must have to oversee a smoothly running church. ✿ The pastor is the person who finds people to teach Sunday school. ✿ He organizes social programs for a wide range of age groups. ✿ She schedules music for events all year round and offers counseling to those in grief or those preparing for marriage. ✿ Then consider the administration at the conference level that makes the local, personalized ministry possible. ✿ The United Methodist ministry encompasses so much more than that one Sunday service and the many facets of the United Methodist Church is well evidenced by the Olin alumni. ✿

Judy and Gary Olin met at Otterbein as pre-theology students and both went on to become ordained ministers. Now their daughter Jennifer Olin-Hitt, also an Otterbein graduate, is on track for ordination next year. While all three will be ordained ministers, each is following a different path within the same church.

Following his ordination, Gary '63, was immediately appointed to a church and has continued to serve as a pastor throughout his career. Judy '62, who was six months pregnant when she graduated from the seminary, decided not to work away from the home while her children were young. She did, however, teach some summer classes and speak at many churches. As she became known through her speaking engagements, she was appointed to administrative positions within the church. She was the first woman to be appointed superintendent of a church district in Ohio and now is the Director of the Conference Council on Ministries for the East Ohio Conference.

Jennifer '89 plans to serve as a pastor like her father but also has her eye on someday teaching theology, perhaps at the seminary level.

The story of this family, so involved in the many varying roles of the United Methodist Church, begins at Otterbein when Gary and Judy met through their mutual activities as pre-theology students. At that time, they were studying under the authority of the Evangelical United Brethren Church which would later merge with the Methodist Church to become the United Methodist Church.

The Olins remember fondly their days at Otterbein where they met. "As I recall she was dating a fraternity brother," Gary Olin chats. "Yes," his wife agrees, "but he left campus."

"I loved Otterbein," Judy sighs. "It opened the door for me to a life I never knew I could be a part of. It was a liberating opportunity. The choice of a liberal arts college was the very best choice." While in school, she was very active as president of her sorority Theta Nu, Women's

Glee Club and even acted in a few plays. She was also the 1962 Sibyl queen.

"I never even looked anywhere else," admits Gary about his decision to enroll at Otterbein. "I thought there was no place else you should go if you were EUB. And the Otterbein influence—the faculty really helped to confirm my calling. Philip Deeever, a religion professor and my advisor, took me from my naive entry to ask the hard, critical questions, but in a loving way and kept me on my course."

In fact, it was Deeever who performed the Olins' marriage ceremony in the chapel at the Dayton Theological Seminary where they continued their education.

Judy was a year ahead of Gary and entered the seminary directly after graduation from Otterbein in 1962. They were married after Gary's graduation from Otterbein in 1963 and being a year ahead in her seminary studies allowed Judy to take lighter loads so they would graduate together in 1967.

"At that time I don't think we knew what we were getting into," Gary says of their decision to enter the seminary. "We were the first clergy couple that we knew of in the EUB." When they graduated from the Dayton Theological Seminary, the idea of a husband and wife being in the ministry together was so unusual they were featured in a front page story in the *Dayton Daily News*.

"We didn't know where our studies would lead us but I think our faith commitment held us together," Judy adds.

Also unusual was Judy's decision as a woman to become an ordained minister. In those days, few women were choosing that path. "At that time I knew of no women pastors," she says. "I was the first to take courses leading toward pastoral ministry."



DAYTON DAILY NEWS

Judy and Gary Olin today in front of her office in North Canton (right). The above photo appeared in the *Dayton Daily News* (June 1, 1967) shortly before the couple graduated from the seminary. At the time, Judy was six months pregnant with their oldest child, Jennifer.



When she entered the seminary, Judy didn't know where she wanted to go or what she would be doing so she studied a wide range of topics. "I tried to prepare myself broadly so I could go where I was sent and serve the church. I knew I wanted to be in full-time Christian service and when you begin with that kind of openness, you can go many directions."

Nor did Judy guess she would have a family to care for soon after graduating but she was six months pregnant with the Olins' first child when she received her master's degree. Jennifer Olin was born in 1967 and was followed by her brother Nathan in 1969. Another son, Joshua, arrived in 1971. Judy knew she didn't want to work away from home during her children's early years but says, "I didn't realize I would be out of the appointment system as long as I was."

"I had two covenants to follow," she explains. "The first was to God in service full time and the other was to my



PATTI KENNEDY

home and marriage. Luckily I didn't think there had to be a choice in those. In my early years, as I think with any woman who is educated and primed for a career, sitting and watching what others were doing I would have my questions and doubts about if this was what God really wanted. But the opportunities were always there."

During her time at home, Judy maintained her ties to Christian service through speaking engagements and teaching at schools of mission.

While Judy was tending to their young family, Gary also was facing challenges. He was assigned to the EUB church in Cuyahoga Falls and discovered there was a young pastor at a Methodist Church just down the road in Monroe Falls. Knowing the denominations would soon be merging, the two young pastors set about merging the churches. The two congregations which initially were unaware of each other became a single congrega-



tion within three months, just one month after the denominations merged in 1968. Within four years a new church was built and named Twin Falls.

"It was an exciting time in our lives but at the same time we didn't know what the normative was," Gary laughs. "That was also the time we were having our children. Those were exciting years in our lives."

He went on to serve as associate pastor at the United Methodist Church in Wooster, Ohio, and later the church in Conneaut, Ohio. He received his doctorate in 1980 from the San Francisco



A Day Like Yesterday

When asked, what is your average day like, both Judy and Gary Olin whip out their date books and recite a long list of duties that goes something like this:

Gary

- Read four chapters of the Bible
- Staff meeting with lay staff on programming
- Schedule services through lent and decide on music
- Visit woman whose husband had died an hour earlier
- Visit with man whose father was critically ill and died an hour later
- Wrote letters
- Met with couple to be married
- Two evening meetings — first meeting of the new year with the board of trustees and met about programming for 1992 in the church
- Took care of some administrative details
- Arrived home at 10 p.m. and made three phone calls concerning church business

Judy

- Reading from devotional book
- Met with secretary who had just returned from holiday vacation
- Prepared for budget process meeting
- Consulted with camp associate director
- Budget process meeting
- Wrote letters concerning theological retreat
- Met with conference treasurer
- Helped develop portfolio for associate director
- Met about vision symposium
- Conference call
- Wrote thank you notes
- Made several phone calls
- Spoke with lay woman whose daughter is dealing with date rape
- Met with men from church where she is going to speak
- Reviewed job applications for associate director position that is open

Theological Seminary. He studied in San Francisco for a summer and then returned to his position in Wooster while completing his dissertation.

Judy and the children, of course, followed his appoint-

ments and Judy continued to serve in other ways. She was a member of the Commission on Status and Role of Women in the East Ohio Conference. She served as director and chaplain of the Interfaith

Campus Ministries at the Agricultural Technical Institute in Wooster and Wayne General College in Orrville, Ohio. She filled in as pastor at the Andover United Methodist Church in an unappointed position and later at the Leon United Methodist Church of the Rural Dynamic Parish. Though currently in church administration, Judy enjoyed serving as a pastor. "I have appreciated that time and the pastorate is never far from my heart. But I realize it takes other kinds of ministry to allow the pastoral ministry to take place."

In Conneaut, she worked as Director of the Child Care Center at the church where her husband was pastor. She later was appointed associate pastor there. Judy particularly credits her work in the child care center with preparing her for the superintendent's job. "It was one of those times when I thought, 'Did I go to the seminary for this?' but it was good experience. I learned staff supervision, leadership skills and goal setting. In many ways it prepared me well for superintendency."

In 1984, Judy was appointed Superintendent of the Youngstown District. She was the first woman in Ohio appointed to such a position and spent six years at that job. "It was a good six years and lots of hard work. But so is this (being Director of the Conference Council on Ministries). It's never been easy and I always feel I have so much to learn on the job. But I've found it interesting and exciting and I've always had good people to support me."

She also readily acknowledges her husband's support. "I could not have done anything without Gary," she says. "From the very beginning he has allowed me to be who I am and he realized I have a calling."

Gary is equally aware of

Judy's support for his aims in the ministry. "Earlier on when we came out of the seminary, I took the appointments and she moved with me. The last two times I have moved with her job. I hope we are making a model for something that soon will not be unusual. But I did have to make some adjustments."

Their mutual support was put to the test when Judy was appointed superintendent. "It was a time for family conferences, first with Gary and then with the kids. I knew it would work only if everyone were willing to go with it and make the adjustments."

Jennifer, who was about to enter her senior year of high school remembers the move as a hard decision for her. "I knew it was an incredible step for her to be doing that but part of me just didn't want to move," she admits. But in the end, the decision was made to move to Youngstown.

Gary took on a new job when he was appointed pastor to the United Methodist Church in Hubbard, Ohio and at home he became much more of a care-giver to their three teenage children. The fall and spring were the two busy seasons in Judy's job and Gary found himself attending the children's many athletic events.

"They (the children) didn't suffer but I missed not seeing them cross the finish line at track meets," Judy says wistfully.

As superintendent, Judy oversaw 62 churches with 25,000 members. One of those churches was the Hubbard United Methodist Church where Gary was pastor. The conference bishop took steps to ensure there would be no conflict with having Judy as superintendent for her husband's church. He arranged for another superintendent to serve as a liaison between the Hubbard church

and the conference. The situation had never occurred before and the bishop "wanted to do it right and cover all the angles," Gary explains. "Judy didn't have to deal with the personnel in my church."

Judy credits her broad experiences for preparing her for the superintendent's position. She also was familiar to many people in the district because of her many speaking engagements at different churches. "I was not an unknown quantity," Judy supposes, "so they had no problem with a woman at that level, since I was the woman."

"Judy has made a reputation in the conference as a preacher and a speaker," her husband compliments. "She is a very articulate interpreter and has spoken more places than maybe any other clergy. Consequently, that reputation made her well-known as a person in the conference."

While in the position, the Otterbein Alumni Association honored Judy with a Special Achievement Award.

After her six years as superintendent, Judy was appointed Director of the Conference Council on Ministries. In this position, Judy oversees a staff of six people and basically helps meet the needs of local churches in a variety of ways. She and her staff work diligently to see that churches have the necessary programs to meet the congregations' needs whether it be in the area of Sunday school, youth ministry, retreats, summer camps, AIDS education or fund raising. "It's a very complex job with 12 districts in the conference," she stresses.

The move to North Canton where the conference offices are located meant a move to a new church for Gary to continue the pastoral work at which he is so skilled. For Gary, there was always a calling to the ministry. "This is what God was calling me to

do. I've always found it rewarding and fulfilling to share in people's lives and every place I go there are good people. Sometimes there are people hurting or with problems but that's why I'm there."

He is now at a growing congregation in suburban Akron. The small church which he served in Hubbard was facing an aging population and decreasing congregation. "So this is a refreshing change for me but it has different kinds of challenges." In the past year, about 60 people have joined the congregation of 500.

"It's a busy world and I see a lot of family issues," Gary says. "I try to help them make sense out of their lives, set priorities. And they're looking for answers in how to raise their children."

In October, 1991, the problem of random, senseless destruction struck close to home for Gary's congregation when the church was vandalized a week before Halloween. Damage was estimated at \$15,000. The vandals burned a cross on top of the baptismal font, dripped candle wax on and burned holes in the carpet, sprayed grease on the walls, covered walls and floors with tempera paint, broke three interior doors and sprayed chemicals from four fire extinguishers throughout the church. In addition, a grease gun, cables, a microphone and speakers from the church organ amplifier systems were stolen, damaging the system in the process.

However, church members

and people from nearby churches volunteered immediately to help in the cleaning and repair of the church. What could have been a disaster turned out to be an event that brought the congregation

even closer together.

"The vandalism is behind us," Gary insists. "There was a tremendous outpouring of concern. The church has been cleaned top to bottom and the only thing still pending is how to fix the organ. A campaign has been started for that."

Now the Olins' daughter, Jennifer, is apparently going to follow

her father's career choice but also is following her mother example as a woman entering the ministry.

"She will probably never follow in my footsteps but make her own. She is very unique," Judy says with obvious pride. "I think she will find her calling to be a teacher in theological education. I'm pleased for Jennifer to be discovering God's claim in her life and opening doors to things that will be beneficial to others and satisfying to her. That's all I've ever asked for all my children."

While her parents did not try to steer Jennifer toward the ministry their oldest child admits, "I would not have considered the ministry if they weren't ministers. They were my role models so I thought of it as a viable option when I think not many students in college consider the ministry. I think they did influence me

but subtly. And while I'm following them, I have the desire to do something that's my own. I hope to find a niche in the ministry that is my own."

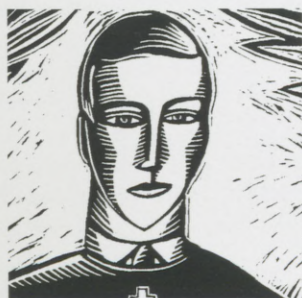
The Olins' sons chose neither to attend Otterbein nor enter the ministry. Nathan graduated from Mount Union College, married this summer, and in the fall will attend Northeastern University as a law student. The youngest, Joshua, is a junior at Baldwin-Wallace College majoring in English and speech communications. He hopes to go into the sports information field.

"We're very pleased with their choices," Judy says.

Jennifer followed her parents' educational choice by attending first Otterbein and now the Dayton Theological Seminary. Jennifer started at Otterbein as a music education major but soon realized she didn't want to work in music professionally. She has decided music will be an avocation rather than a vocation. "It will always be a part of my life but not vocationally," she explains.

Her interest in music fortunately did introduce her to Michael Hitt '85 when they were both members of the Concert Choir. They were married in 1989 after Jennifer's graduation. Michael received a master's degree in English from The Ohio State University and is now working on his doctorate at that institution. He plans to teach at the college level.

After Jennifer decided against a music major, she was unsure what direction her studies would take. "I was searching for a major and loved my English classes but still I wasn't sure what to do with an English major," she tells. "I got to know (Otterbein Chaplain) Monty Bradley well and he was influential to me. I was sorting out my own



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personal faith issues and other things as many people do in college. It was a gradual process and I thought what I had learned at Otterbein would lend itself well to work in the seminary." When she first arrived at the seminary, it was mainly to continue the learning process rather than a career move. "It was a personal quest," she says.

Jennifer is now on the track to ordained ministry and will finish about the time Michael receives his doctorate. She hopes to then enter the ministry in a local church. Already, she is gaining field experience by serving as Student Associate Pastor in Aley United Methodist Church in Beavercreek, Ohio. Much like the church where her father is pastor, Jennifer is working in a growing suburban church with about 600 members in the congregation.

"I'm learning what it means to be a pastor and I get to do some preaching. I work with the youth group primarily. It's a learning experience for the most part," she describes.

And she is learning the reality of the ministry is different than she expected even though she is the daughter of two ministers and had their experiences to learn from. "It's really different than I expected being in the role of pastor rather than being a kid in the parsonage watching my parents," she laughs. "When you're not in leadership in a church you don't realize all the little administrative things necessary to make a church run. I think most people think preachers work on Sunday mornings and that's it. I was surprised at how much variety there is in parish work. There's counseling, you have to have a fairly good sense of writing and communication, teaching, the administrative, the finance. I have a greater respect for my parents and what they've done. It's never dull."

Jennifer is especially appreciative of her mother's service as a role model. "I don't remember ever questioning women as pastors. My women colleagues here at the college, are still struggling to find women role models. There are a lot of women in seminary today but the older generation of women is not there."

What does the future hold for the Olins? Whatever God calls upon them to do. "We've never looked much ahead," Gary says. "We're not looking to greener pastures."

"It's a challenge just to paddle upstream where you are," Judy laughs. "I just try to do the best I can where I am. In the long scheme of things, I build on what others have done and I lay the foundation for others."

Jennifer, who is just starting out, still finds the future somewhat forboding. While she is now preparing to be a

pastor in a local church, Jennifer also is considering someday teaching, perhaps at the seminary level. For now, she is looking forward to her first appointment but knows it will have to fit in with her husband's career plans. "We'll finish at the same time and go where he gets a teaching position," she explains. "We're playing it by ear. Next year we'll see how it falls into place. It's scary not knowing how it's going to work out but I think any couple starting out can say that."

She admits to a few doubts but says, "That's where my faith comes into play. I really feel God is calling me in some direction of Christian ministry but I'm not sure where I will end up. There's a certainty in my calling but uncertainty too in how it will work out."

Like her parents, Jennifer and Michael plan to be very supportive of each other's

goals. "He's very open with what I'm doing," Jennifer says. "The Church is finding there are more and more two-career couples. As I get appointed, we'll have to work our commutes and the gives and takes."

They have already had some experience in that area. When they were first married, Jennifer commuted from the Columbus area to the seminary in Dayton. Now Michael commutes from Dayton to Ohio State twice a week. He plans to teach at the college level and Jennifer hopes to be appointed to a church near where he finds a job.

Wherever their appointments take Judy and Gary Olin and Jennifer Olin-Hitt, the United Methodist Church is indeed fortunate to have these intelligent, caring people filling the many essential roles within the church. ■



Jennifer Olin-Hitt (left) and husband Michael share a small apartment on the campus of the Dayton Theological Seminary.



PATTI KENNEDY



CHURCH RELATIONS IS

Alive & Well

Otterbein's Mike Christian describes his role at the College

by Michael W. Christian '61

The voice over the phone was inquisitive. "Can you come to our church and talk to our youth group about United Methodist colleges?" "I certainly can and would be happy to do so. What date are you considering?" The date was set and another local church college fair took shape.

Goodies and punch were in hand at the alumni function. The conversation led to... "has Otterbein always been a church-related school?" "Why yes, ever since its founding in 1847. We've never missed a year. It started with the United Brethren, then the Evangelical United Brethren, and now we are a United Methodist school." "How many United Methodist colleges are there?" There are 125 United Methodist colleges and seminaries nationwide and five United Methodist colleges in Ohio."

Weren't we the only United Brethren and Evangelical United Brethren college in Ohio at one time?" "That's right."

She appeared at the door and asked, "I'd like to speak with the chaplain, please." "Well, I'm not the chaplain but I'll be glad to take you to his office." "You're Church Relations aren't you?" "Yes, I am." "What's the difference?" "The chaplain works out of the Student Affairs Office with programming and students. Church Relations is basically a liaison between the College and the church. Generally, everything the Church needs to know about the College and the College needs to know about the Church goes through the Church Relations office. We have very close ties with the West Ohio, East Ohio, and Western Pennsylvania Conferences of the United Methodist Church."

A myriad of questions are asked and a variety of experiences arise in the life of a Church Relations Director...from some tough theological issues to an incident with a freshman, recruited by Church Relations, who came to the office and said, "I'm running out of clean clothes, what do I do?"

Over the years, three men have had these kinds of experiences at Otterbein as Church Relations Director. Dr. Arthur L. Schultz, Ph.D. L.L.D., served from 1960-1965. Art is a 1949 graduate and a Zeta Phi man. He served in several other capacities for Otterbein including director of Admission, editor of *Towers* magazine, and Public Relations director. He and his wife, Louise Stouffer Schultz '49 still live in Westerville and they never miss an Otterbein basketball game. Louise was a member of Sigma Alpha Tau and still manages to keep Art in line.

The Reverend Chester R. Turner, B.A., B.D., M.Div., served Church Relations from 1966 to 1984. Chet is a 1943 grad and a Jonda (Eta Phi Mu) fraternity brother. He also served Otterbein in other capacities. He was assistant director of Development and Alumni director at different times in his career at Otterbein. He and his wife, Margaret Biehn Turner '43 also still live in Westerville, never miss an Otterbein basketball game, and Margaret keeps Chet in line. Margaret was a member of Rho Kappa Delta and is still active in her art work. While Art was the first Church Relations director. Chet is the first Church Relations director emeritus.

I am the Reverend Michael W. Christian B.A., B.D., M.Div., and I have served as Church Relations director since 1985. I am a 1961 alumnus and I was in Pi Beta Sigma. My wife, Judy Pohner Christian '61, and I live in Westerville, we have not missed many Otterbein basketball games, and I keep Judy in line. Judy was a member of Epsilon Kappa Tau. She is the laboratory supervisor in Otterbein's Life Science Department and is an accomplished woodcarver.

We three directors—emeritus and otherwise—are United Methodist clergymen and have walked down several common as well as different paths to maintain the church relations tie with the church. All three of us have had a large constituency base of United Methodist churches and their members and pastors. There are still some 730,000 United Methodists in the Ohio and Western Pennsylvania Conferences alone. There are currently 226 alumni serving in a multitude of U.M. pastoral ministries throughout the Church. They are carrying on a mission and ministry which Otterbein helped to mold and was handed to them by still other countless pastors and members who have passed on to an even greater kingdom.

In the past, church camps were visited by Church Relations representatives and campers caught a glimpse of Otterbein. Churches and youth gatherings are still visited regularly. All was and is still done to tell the "Otterbein Story" and to help church members feel a part of this higher education endeavor as United Methodists.

Currently, the "Otterbein Story" is told in a variety of ways as a part of the Church Relations agenda. First and foremost is assisting United Methodist prospective students. As many as 11,000 United Methodist high school students are contacted annually. Each inquiry is carefully followed up. As 1992 begins, 207 prospective United Methodist students have in-

quired about Otterbein through ten different recruiting programs initiated by the Church Relations Office.

Twenty-nine percent of Otterbein's full-time students are United Methodist. It is the largest religious affiliation on campus and the largest percentage of United Methodist of the five United Methodist colleges in Ohio. Thirty-four of those students had their initial contact with Otterbein through the Church Relations Office. Many United Methodist contacts reinforce the Admission Department recruitment process. Relationships are established by these contacts and Church Relations provides an additional support group for United Methodist students while they are at Otterbein.

Some 80 churches are personally reached on an annual basis. These churches need to know that a private, church-related school is affordable. Both off-campus visitations and on-campus hosting of groups are very active programs by Church Relations. Offering tours of historical Hanby House and the campus's own historical treasure, the Philomathean Room, is a special treat.

Another important function of the Church Relations Office is to represent Otterbein on numerous Church Boards and agencies. The United Methodist "connection" and the higher education impact is served as a part of this representation. Since Otterbein is the only school among the five United Methodist colleges in Ohio to have a full-time Church Relations director, I currently serve as the administrative assistant to the Five College Commission. This Commission is the body which cares for all the endeavors done jointly by the five United Methodist colleges in Ohio. Annual Conference events are coordinated, a common brochure and poster is sent annually to each United Methodist church in Ohio, prospective students are solicited for all five schools, and display booths are maintained at United Methodist events throughout the year.

Another rewarding program of the Church Relations Office is the United Methodist Scholarship Program. Since 1985, 174 Otterbein United Methodist students have received \$137,557 in denominational and conference United Methodist Scholarships. The United Methodist Scholarships are renewable each year. If they are procured, they are considered "external scholarships" at Otterbein. They reduce the amount of loan in a student's financial aid package. These scholarships do not affect any other scholarship or grant earned or awarded to the student.

In addition to these programs, there are many other examples of the Church-College "connection," such as exciting recent ties with the Western Pennsylvania Conference. In 1990, Otterbein received the Western Pennsylvania Board of Higher Education Special Project Grant. This grant provided funds for a year-long sequence of symposia on racism and sexism. It also provided for valuable additions about these topics to the campus library. In 1991, the Western Pennsylvania Board of Higher Education Faculty Excellence Award was presented to Otterbein's Associate Professor of Mathematics, Dr. John R. Hinton. In 1992, Otterbein already has received a second Special Projects Grant which will involve disadvan-

The Reverend Michael Christian has been director of Church Relations at Otterbein since 1985. Before that, he served as minister of Christian Education for United Methodist churches in Dayton, Parma, and Medina, Ohio. Mike and wife Judy live in Westerville.

tagged inner city children with Otterbein's Continuing Studies program. (See Fall 1991 *Towers*, "Making Scholars Out of 7th Graders.")

Last but not least, there is a financial "connection" between the two Ohio United Methodist Conferences and the Western Pennsylvania United Methodist Conference. Through all these ties, the "connection" between the Church and a church-related college is important for both the Church and the college. There is a sharing of mission and ministry that is unique to the Church and higher education.

While Church Relations performs many functions and connections for Otterbein, the Church Relations Office is also "part of a team"—the Development Office team. Presently, the Church Relations Director wears a "second hat" and touches a different constituency—the Development Endowed Scholarship Officer. My office maintains all the master files and records of this program. I enjoy the student contact when I assign the eligible students to the various scholarships—I try to find just the right student for each one. The integrity of our endowed scholarship contract with each donor is secure for as long as there is an Otterbein. My communication with the recipients, the donors, or scholarship representative is very important to me. When the recipient and donor or representative can meet with each other on campus, that is "icing on the cake." My travels include seeking out new donors and I thoroughly enjoy that. I also coordinate the recognition of each scholarship in the annual Honor Roll publication and the recognition of the recipients in the Spring Honors Convocation. Currently there are 140 endowed scholarships and 53 pending endowed scholarships. A massive restructuring process was just completed in the last three years. Much of this recent restructuring was possible because Chet Turner had the foresight to bring all the endowed scholarships together under one umbrella many years ago. The program is now stronger than ever and it shows all the signs of being able to continue to grow for years to come.

Finally, I've even heard the question, "What else do you do?" Well, beyond the Church Relations work and the endowed scholarship efforts, the Church Relations Office is assigned various special projects. For me, personally, this has meant archival activities and research for Development and serving on the Traditions Committee. Serving in the Otterbein Senate is unique. Participating as a speaker to campus and community groups is meaningful. Being manager of the Faculty-staff coed softball team was...ah...interesting. I also recently was asked, "What is a typical week like?" I don't know. I never had a typical week. I do know I'm having a marvelous experience as Otterbein's Church Relations Direc-

tor. I do know Art and Chet would say likewise. Why? It is the experiences and the challenges. Otterbein has always been a superior place. It still is. It's not perfect. There are warts here and there. But even the challenge of "improving" is a good experience. And yes, I have dreams for Church Relations. I would dream of a growing network of contacts...a local church/Otterbein matching grant...an alumni United Methodist network...lots of things to do. Lots of conversations to have...lots of calls to make...lots of roads to travel. It is the

Not to be Confused With...

While Church Relations takes care of the external dealings between the College and the Church, Otterbein's Chaplain Monty Bradley takes care of all internal church-related matters. He describes his role as a pastor and teacher. "I work with religious activities to provide an ecumenical ministry," he explains.

His many tasks include leading devotions such as the prayer before Senate meetings or reading the story of Mary and Joseph at the Christmas tree lighting ceremony as well as regular worship services. He provides pastoral care and counseling on diverse subjects such as grief, drug abuse or preparing for marriage.

Bradley says his calling also has a "prophetic dimension" meaning a need to put his faith into action. This is done partly by addressing social concerns such as sexism,

racism through symposiums and discussions. Last year during the Gulf War, Bradley helped students deal with issues of war and peace.

Another way he puts his faith into action is through volunteerism and Bradley has organized students to help with Habitat for Humanity and the Crop Walk. In conjunction with the Religious Activities Council, Bradley organizes the annual Campus Sharing Day Auction and Bake Sale. The campus community donates items for the auction and any money raised is donated to a worthy cause such as helping the homeless.

He also is a faculty member in the Integrative Studies program and has taught such classes as Death and Dying and Human Nature in Christianity.

"I never know what to expect," Bradley says of his job. "It's exciting in that sense." ■

experiences, the challenges, the dreams....and, especially, the relationships that make up Otterbein.

Years ago, my pastor, Demi Edwards '43 brought me to an Otterbein High School Day when I didn't even know the town in which Otterbein was located. I was able to thank him for the experience before he died this summer. Helen Moore '31, the one admissions counselor at the time, helped me fall in love with Otterbein. Phil Deever '34 taught me as I never dreamed possible. I had my first date with Judy during our sophomore year. Our second date was during our senior year. (I didn't want to rush into anything, but we did finally tie the knot.) Friends like Nancy Norris'61, Al Gress'61, Alan Harris'69, Dave Bourguin'63 have meant so much.

Coming back to work for Otterbein after 24 years in the local church was so special for Judy and me. The College still always makes you feel welcome. As always, there is a good blend of the old and the new. A good example of the continuity is finding professors who were just starting when we were students who are now chairs of their departments. A long time ago, Judy and I decided this was where we wanted to retire. This was "home" to us. We just got here 20 years early. If the next 13 is anything like the first seven, I will always be able to look out my Howard House office window, grin, and say, "Yes, Church Relations is alive and well." ■



THE OAK TREE, THE LINDEN



by James R. Bailey

*An oak-tree stands
Beside a linden,
There's a low wall around them. I have seen
The place myself.*

—Ovid, *Metamorphoses*
Tr. Rolfe Humphries

An oak tree and a linden. Not at all unusual in the hills of southern Indiana. The only odd feature is how close they stand together, twin boles, their branches interleaving. Companions, they stand there, reaching to the sky, rooted in a rise just before the terrain begins its descent to the river. They are not ancient trees, not titans like those that dwarfed the original settlers of the Midwest. But they are trees of a respectable size, having thrived for more than forty years on this undisturbed spot. Undisturbed, that is, by the presence of folks, by agrarian rituals of tilling and sowing and harvesting since after the old couple left, the farm was abandoned, the few buildings allowed to collapse, the fields reclaimed by rank weeds and brush and by saplings and, in time, by ash and oak, sassafras and sycamore.

Without human caretakers, other life goes its own way, and if you should visit the abandoned farmstead, you would see underfoot, besides the remnants of

timbers and boards that once were barn and shed, clay hillocks reared by groundhogs, and overhead you might hear playful squirrels jumping from branch to branch in the oak trees. But other than hunters who have lost their way, few people bother to walk back here, and you can't maneuver even a four-wheel drive through the brush and briars. In spring and summer, the progeny of Bess's flowers bloom—daffodils followed by lilacs and then by orange and yellow lilies, now as native to the landscape as trillium and violets and spice bush.

Life is peacefully undomesticated back here a mile from the main route, itself still an unimproved road with a gravel surface. Oh, people do sometimes pull off the road into the lane that used to wind back to a tidy yard and house, but the trail that Phil kept smooth and trimmed, taking his whetted scythe to its borders, is impassable with ruts and brush. Most drivers who pull into the head of the lane to park think it's just a turn-

James R. Bailey chairs Otterbein's English Department and has authored numerous poems and short stories.

around and don't have an idea it leads somewhere, or used to. These are people born long after Phil and Bess departed, after nature reclaimed their farm as its own. These nocturnal Gypsies come seeking a place to drink a six-pack in solitude or clandestinely to make love away from parents or mates, and they leave a scattering of aluminum cans, bottles, cigarette wrappers, styrofoam cartons—the anonymous detritus of lonely people who drive into the countryside and forget to look up at the stars and who do not recognize the mournful whooping of the owls.

LIKE MOST COUNTRY-BRED FOLKS, Phil observed and listened to his fellow creatures and interpreted their doings. He heard the owls. "Rain's coming, Bess," he said. "Hoot owl was calling in the woods last night. Then this morning, heard a rain crow down by the river. 'Scalp, scalp,' it yelled, like they do. We'll have rain by tomorrow."

"Good rain wouldn't hurt," Bess said. "Even though the growing season's about over. Everything's dry and dusty. Good shower would freshen the air. And them late green beans out in the garden, they might make one more picking if they got a rain."

"You're right but I hope we ain't fixing to have a rainy spell. I can start cribbing corn in a couple of weeks if it stays dry. Wouldn't it be nice to get the corn shucked and in the dry during October?"

Old man with a bad hip hasn't got no business shucking corn, toiling long days for a crop that nobody else cares about, she thought, but she held her tongue. After all, he wasn't quite seventy—his father had lived into his eighties and had gone out and worked a little every day until he died.

Although she thought of both herself and him as old, Phil didn't. Perhaps the difference was that she had already lived twice as long as her father had and he still had nearly twenty years to go to catch up with his dad. This place, still known as the Burrows farm to old-timers, had belonged to her father and before him to her grandfather, and because she was the only child of a sickly father, she and Phil came here to live when they married and here they stayed. Here they abided all their conjugal years; here they conceived and reared Jeanette, who lived across the state with her own children, city bred and born. Bess could see no future for the farm after them, but when she said so to Phil, as she sometimes did when he struggled to work like a thirty-year-old to keep the fields and the buildings in shape, his injured look silenced her.

"What you fixing to do today?" she asked. "Since it's going to rain tomorrow, maybe we should dig them potatoes today. I hate digging spuds in the mud."

THE GARDEN WAS A BROWN AND GREEN PATCHWORK, an elegy to the waning season. The rows of vegetables they had planted in April and May had yielded their produce and died, replaced now by flourishing tickle grass and pig weed. Weeks ago, after ears were harvested, Phil had chopped the stalks of sweet corn and fed them to their Jersey cow. Tomato plants wore mournful raggedy brown leaves, and cabbages that had been decapitated in August attempted to thwart their death sentences by growing egg-sized heads on coarse stalks. Besides the weeds, only a patch of bright green turnip tops and that late row of beans spoke of life among the autumnal remnants.

After turning up a few hills with his potato fork, Phil said, "Should be six or seven big ones in there, but look at these runts." He sorted four fair-sized potatoes and three marbles out of the crumbly dirt. "Won't make three bushels at this rate."

"Maybe they're better at the other end," she said, but she knew they weren't. This part of the garden always raised the best

produce.

"This is disgusting," he snorted, as they continued down the row and found a few small potatoes in each hill. "We had good seed potatoes and planted at the right time. Hoed the weeds out and hilled them up good."

"Just not a good season—first too wet and cold and then too hot and dry. Besides, maybe this garden is wore out. Think about all the potatoes and tomatoes and beans been growed here. Been a garden for a long time now. Land wears out, too."

"But we take care of it. Manure it every year. Plant rye on it in the fall and plow it under in the spring. They should have done better than this. Hope there'll be enough to get us through the winter."

"Maybe you'll have to give up mashed potatoes, Phil. You wouldn't mind, would you?" She teased him because he liked her mashed potatoes better than almost any other food.

"Don't have a whole lot else to give up, do we? Still, I'd rather give up something else besides potatoes."

"Listen," she said. "Katie's barking. Somebody coming?"

From the garden, which lay next to the lane, they saw two men walking from the main road. The one leading the way was at least six feet tall and heavy, not obese but a substantial, muscular man of more than two hundred pounds. His companion was shorter, slighter and younger, perhaps twenty-five to the other's fifty. They did not wear overalls and work shirts but dark pleated trousers and white shirts with collars open and sleeves rolled to the elbows. The larger wore a sporty straw hat with a cloth band.

"Who do you think they are? I don't recognize them, do you?"

"Strangers," she said. "Maybe they're in trouble and looking for help. Why else would they be walking back here, a mile off the road. If they was selling something, they'd for sure drive."

"Dressed kind of like salesmen, though, ain't they? But I guess they'd wear neckties, then, and carry stuff, too. They've not seen us—too busy yakking. We could duck down here, behind these pole bean wigwams, till they go."

"Shame on you, Phil. If they need help, they need help. If they're selling something . . . well, it's easy enough to get rid of them. Just tell them the truth—we ain't got no money. Can't hardly buy sugar and flour, let alone something fancy. And carpet sweepers and sewing machines take electricity, which we still ain't got. May not take it if it does get here, since not having it sure makes it easy to get rid of traveling salesmen."

A small black and tan dog confronted the strangers at the yard gate. She woofed and growled but her wriggling body and wagging tail equivocated. "Nice poochie. That's it, you just take it easy, just take it easy," the big man soothed, stooping, holding a hand low for the dog to sniff and lick.

"Katie, hush! You act decent, now, and hush your barking," Bess called. "We're over here in the potato patch," she announced. "What can we do for you?"

They came to the garden fence with Katie following and sniffing at their city-feller shoes. "We could use some help, missus," the older man said. "Car quit about four miles down the road. Sure would appreciate using your phone to call for help."

"You'd be welcome to use it—if we had one. As you can see," Bess said, gesturing toward the lane, "telephone lines don't come back here though some out yonder do have phones."

"You mind if we sit and rest in your yard a spell?" the younger man asked. "My friend Z. K. here is feeling a little winded after our impromptu hike." He laughed, a fluttering giggle that took wing and landed on a falsetto note.

Z. K. fanned his perspiring face with his hat. "I doubt I'm anymore winded than you, boy. Looked to me like I kept up with

you every step." He plucked a white handkerchief from his hip pocket and mopped his forehead. "Still, wouldn't mind sitting down and catching my breath."

"You boys go right ahead. You'll find a couple of chairs around the other side of the house. That's actually the front, even though it appears to be the backside," Phil said. "Always seems to be a breeze there by the river."

"Yes, you sit a spell while we finish digging this row. Won't take long, no better than they turned out," Bess said. "Katie, you act polite and show them the way." The dog trotted toward the house and then paused, looking back to see if the men followed.

"Not from around here," Phil said when the men were out of earshot. "Must be traveling through."

"Out here ain't a good place to have a breakdown. I can't think who can help them this side of Greencastle, and since we got no phone and a car that don't run, we ain't much help."

"Old Ford would run, if it had gasoline," Phil said. "I suppose I could harness Blaze and take them to town in the cart."

"We'll see what they want," she said. "There. That's the last hill. If they want to stay for a bite of dinner, at least we can have potatoes. Good thing I baked bread yesterday."

"HERE, LET ME HELP YOU . . . Mrs. Strong, is it?" The slender man jumped up and offered to take the basket of potatoes she carried. "Leastwise, it says Strong on your mailbox." He repeated his cascading laugh.

"Used to be strong. Now oughta say weak," Phil said and laughed. "But guess the name's still Strong even though I ain't."

"Just set the basket here in the shade," she told the stranger. "This afternoon I'll scrub the dirt off before storing them in the cellar."

"Leave 'em out and let nature wash them," Phil advised. "It's going to come a rain after while."

"It is right hot and humid for this time of year," Z. K. said. "You think it'll storm?"

"All the signs is right," the old man said.

"You ever have trouble with flooding, living here by the river?" Z. K. asked. The two-story white house sat about thirty feet from the edge of the river bank, a sheer drop of several yards to the lazy water.

"That pasture down in the bottom floods some springs. Her daddy—this was his farm—used to plant it in corn but I quit because of flooding. River's been pretty tame for the last few years. Not hardly been up, even in spring."

"Bank cuts kind of close to the house, doesn't it?" the younger man asked. He had given his chair to Phil and now stretched out on the grass, a blithe boy whose mouth curved in a smile even when he was silent.

"Wasn't that close when it was built," Bess said. "My great-grandpa built here at the bend of the river 'cause he liked the view. Gradually, river has cut futher this way and the bank crumbles and caves in. Still doing it. Ten years ago we had twice as much yard as now."

"You're not afraid it'll eventually gobble everything up?" the young stranger asked.

"Figure we'll be gone before the river gets that close, and there's nobody to want the house after us," she said.

"No family except yourselves?" Z. K. said. He slouched comfortably in his chair, a mountain of a man with a straw hat on his lap.

"Got a daughter but she lives up north in Hammond. A city girl now. Got no use for a run-down hill farm," Phil said. "Where you say you left your car?"

"Quit running about three miles east on the main road. Just

coughed a couple of times and died. That was all she wrote."

"Out of gas, you reckon? Sorry to say, I don't have none. Can't buy any till after the first of the month."

"No, got plenty of gas. Something more serious than that, I'm afraid. Guess it'll have to be towed in for a repair. Where would be the closest place?"

"Greencastle. That's twenty miles. Oh, there's places sell gasoline closer but they don't have mechanics," Phil said. "You try any of the houses out on the road? You'll need a telephone to call a tow truck."

"Tried every place between here and the car," Z. K. said, stretching big and then placing his hands behind his head. "Nearly got bit by one dog, did get swore at by one old lady and got ignored by the rest. Not a real friendly reception from your neighbors but sure is hospitable back here."

"Some folks don't take kindly to people they don't recognize," Bess said. "Guess them types ain't planning ever to be in trouble away from home. If Phil went out to the main road with you, Miss Curtis would let you use her phone, I expect. She's wary of strangers but she'd let you in with him."

"I hate to ask you to walk all that way," the young man said. "I notice you favor one leg."

"Unreliable hip," the old man said. "Some mornings it works fine. Others it's not worth a darn. But maybe I can catch old Blaze and we can ride in the cart."

"You gentlemen hungry?" Bess asked. "I think I can scrape up a meal for four so long as you're not fussy. Maybe you could help the mister carry in the rest of the potatoes while I'm in the kitchen?" She headed toward the door.

"I'll do it. Z. K., you and the mister stay put." He exploded into laughter as if he had told a good story.

Phil stood but Z. K. motioned to him. "Let him do it, Mr. Strong. He's young and healthy and under-employed. Let him do it." Z. K. rested in place, ankles crossed and hands folded on his stomach.

Phil leaned back in his chair. "Everybody calls me Phil and her Bess. But don't say Bessie unless you want to get her dander up. She says Bessie's a cow's name."

"We'll be careful then. Wouldn't want to get her going this close to meal time. Call me Z. K., Phil, and that's my boy Herman."

"Hope you wasn't in a big hurry to get some place. Most people don't stop hereabouts unless they got business or have trouble."

"No, no hurry. We're just gallivanting around the countryside. If we don't get any farther than here today, no big problem. Now, look at him, showing off." The young man came from the garden carrying two baskets of potatoes, one riding on top of the other.

"I wish we'd had a son. I don't mean instead of our girl but a boy, too. A boy might have stayed here and had a son of his own. But maybe not. Seems like youngsters don't stay in this kind of place no more. Them that come back from the war all want to live in town."

"War changes people. Always has. Don't seem to matter whether the men come back from Troy or Gettysburg or Iwo Jima, they come back different, don't they?"

"Anything else you need me to do?" Herman asked. "Be glad to help."

"Thanks, but you just sit and take it easy. Time for a bite to eat soon."

"IT'S NOT MUCH BUT I RECKON it'll hold body and soul together," Bess said as she invited them to sit around the kitchen table. "Sorry there's no meat but we don't eat it much ourselves. Just a

chicken now and then but we finished off the fryers in July." She handed around a large crockery bowl that was heaped with mashed potatoes. When Herman spooned into the mound, he uncovered a well of melting butter.

"Oh my, look at that," he giggled. "Homemade butter?"

Bess nodded. "I still churn now and again, so long as the old cow gives milk. But she's about to dry up, and with no prospect of freshening."

She handed around other bowls—green beans in one and apple sauce in the other—and a plate on which she had sliced a crusty loaf of bread. "Care for jam for your bread?" she asked. "Raspberry, made from this year's crop." She offered a cut glass bowl of thick purple jam. "Or maybe you'd prefer honey. Phil still keeps a few hives of bees." She pointed to a bowl of comb filled with the golden distillation of summer's sweetness.

"Look at that! Ain't that pretty?" Herman said. "Never saw prettier."

"White clover honey," Phil said. "It makes the prettiest honey with the smoothest taste."

"I like honey when the bees been working basswood," Bess said. "That's the linden tree. Handsome tree with heart-shaped leaves, and the sweetest smelling flowers, about wheat-cutting time. Now, you may want to save bread and honey for dessert. I'm embarrassed to say there's no pie. There would have been if I'd expected company."

"Now don't you apologize," Z. K. said. "There's more than plenty and everything's scrumptious. Exceptional green beans. Seasoned just so. I bet you grew and canned those yourself."

"Both of us. We grew them and picked them and broke them and canned them," Phil said. "Always do. They sure are good in February. Remind you of summer. Her homemade apple sauce, too. She makes the best. Store bought ain't nothing compared to hers."

"Nobody but me would make it sweet enough for you. Canneries would go broke if they tried to. This is made from early transplants. They're best for apple sauce, I think."

"Never ate any better than this," Herman said, dishing out more apple sauce and then buttering another slice of bread.

"Even this water tastes extra good," Z. K. said. "Sure better than what comes out of the tap in town." He drained his glass and set it on the table. Each of the four glasses was different in shape and design, sole survivors of generations of matched sets.

"Got a good well that my daddy dug. Never has gone dry in all the years we've lived here," Bess said.

"A good well and a good mate. Two of the most valuable possessions for anyone," Z. K. intoned. "If you got 'em, cherish them. Don't defile your pure source of water or of love." He laid aside his fork and looked pensive until an outburst from across the table distracted him. "What you laughing about, young'un?" he asked Herman.

"Nothing, really," he said, smothering his mirth. "I mean, you just sounded so . . . so serious . . . for you."

"No respect for their elders and betters," Z. K. pronounced and flashed a dark look across the table.

"I'm sorry, Z. K. But you surely did sound funny."

"More of anything?" Bess asked, sending the bowls around. "Don't want any of these potatoes left over."

Z. K. MOVED OUTSIDE to the chair he had found so comfortable before and settled back while the old man and Herman left with the horse and cart. "You don't need me," he said, "and I can do some serious resting and digesting while you're off seeing about the car."

After the table was redded and the dishes washed and stacked

in the cupboard, Bess came to the yard.

"Join me," Z. K. said, "rest."

"Just for a minute. I'm going to the orchard to see if there's enough ripe Grimes Golden to make a pie." She took the other chair.

"You should rest a little first," he said. "You already done a good day's work—digging potatoes, cooking a meal for unexpected guests, tidying the kitchen."

"Always so much to do . . . and just the two of us . . . getting too old and too wore out to do much," she murmured. Her head sagged forward and her eyes drooped.

"That's right. Rest a little," he said so softly she did not hear.

SHE AWOKE WITH A JERK. "Land's sake. I guess I fell asleep. I'm sorry."

He stretched. "Don't be sorry. If you had a nap, then you needed it. I snoozed a little myself."

"Don't sleep very well at night anymore. Sometimes I get up more tired than when I went to bed. You ever have nights like that?"

"I know what you mean. Seems like I ain't had a whole night's sleep for ages . . . for centuries."

"How old are you?" she asked with a laugh. "Not that it's any of my business."

"Older than anybody. Almost as old as the hills. Old enough I should have died a long time ago." His laughter rolled and then he stood to look toward the river's bend. Feathery willow leaves vibrated in the breeze as if sending a private greeting to them, the broad figure towering over the slight woman. "You think much about death? I mean, now that you're getting of an age? I think everybody gets to that point."

"I walk over to the old family burying plot almost every day," she confessed. "Sometimes in morning, sometimes in evening. It's over yonder, beyond the orchard and by the wood lot. Started by my daddy's daddy's daddy. He built a stone fence around it and every generation has kept it up. My parents are buried over there and I will be, too, God willing. One of these days."

"You go every day?"

"I don't know why. It's like making a visit. I go over, say a few words to Daddy. Sit on the fence or maybe pull some weeds from around the old markers. Sometimes I run my fingers across the stones. One old flat stone has a lamb carved on it. It's for a little girl—probably died from cholera or typhoid. Her name was Elizabeth Ann Burrows, just like mine. But she died in 1832 and of course I wasn't born till 1880. Anyway, I like to touch the cool stone, trace the figure and the letters carved on it. Phil says I'm fixing to go over there permanent, spending so much time there. He don't usually go with me."

"He don't want to be buried over there with your family?"

"Oh no, that's not it. Phil liked my family, almost better than his. My daddy deeded us this farm, treated Phil like his own son. He just don't want to think about being old and dying."

"Most don't. They'd rather have it come like a surprise, I reckon."

"Never cared much for surprises myself. I want to be ready for it when it comes."

"And are you . . . about ready?" His gaze left the water and the willows and pierced her eyes.

"Why, yes." The flashing forth of her answer caused her to gasp, as when lightning strikes so close by that you see it and hear its report simultaneously. Catching her breath, she added: "Anytime now, I guess. All that holds me back is worrying about him. I don't know how he'll get along by his lonesome."

"He could come with you. Maybe you'd both be ready at the

same time."

"Why, yes, maybe we could go together."

"Now why don't you rest some more. And then we could walk out to see about them apples," he said, but her eyes were already closed.

"LOOKY THERE. TWO SLEEPING BEAUTIES." Herman said amid a crescendo of giggles. "The sleep of the innocent, I reckon."

Phil nodded. He was too touched by the serene beauty of her aged face to say a word. Her neat silver corona, her lids so peacefully closed, her beatific expression hushed him. This rare glimpse of her in repose flooded his spirit with tears. And in his heart he envied the peace that graced her.

"You back already? What you find out about the auto?" Z. K. asked with a stretch and a yawn.

"It's still there and still not running. He took me to a woman who let me use her phone, even though she hovered about, making sure I didn't steal her silverware or poison the dog. Anyway, there's a man with a tow truck coming out later to look at it, but not till this evening after his other help gets to the gas station."

"Coming here?"

"No, I told him we'd meet him at the car about sundown."

Z. K. grunted and nodded. "Guess there's not anything we can do except wait. He'll come according to his time, not yours or mine. You mind if we hang around here till then?" He looked toward Bess, who had awakened and leaned forward in her chair.

"You're welcome to stay long as you need to," she said. "I wish there was more we could offer in the way of comforts."

"I can't imagine greater comfort than this. A good meal followed by a snooze in the shade while the river down there piddles and diddles and sings to us."

She stood. "I'm going for those apples now. You still in the mood for a walk?"

CARRYING A WOVEN WILLOW BASKET that had been her mother's, she led the way along a dusty path to the orchard of a half dozen trees whose rough trunks and sparse branches admitted their age. "Over that way's the burying ground," she said, pointing to a spur that wandered off to the right in the direction of a grove. "Just beyond those trees. There's a stone fence, low enough to step over. You can see it if you look right through there. Freezing and thawing loosens some stones every winter, but we righten them every spring."

"Looks peaceful," he said. "Like the kind of place any weary mortal would like to spend eternity. There's room for the two of you . . . and more?"

"Room for our girl Jeanette if she wanted to come back here, but she won't, I don't think."

"You're not on good terms? Sounds like you don't see her regular."

"We don't have a way of going to see her . . . she's too far away . . . and she's not been to see us for quite a while. She writes regular, but it's not the same as seeing her, and her children."

"Too busy to come see her folks? That don't sound right."

"It's kind of complicated, you see. She came along late, after we'd give up hope of ever having a baby, and we doted on her, like you do when one is all you'll ever have. After Pearl Harbor, she went off to the city to work. We didn't want her to, but she went anyway. We didn't think she'd ever come back if she left here. Well, she married a soldier, a man she didn't know very well, and they had a baby right away. He wasn't even there when she had it, 'cause he'd been shipped overseas."

"He came back?"

"Oh, yes, he came back, but I think it might have been a blessing if he hadn't. Well, there's the Grimes Golden. Hope there's enough drop apples for a pie." She began sorting through pennyroyal and orchard grass for usable fruit.

"He didn't treat your girl right?" Z. K. rubbed a freckled apple on his pant leg and then bit into the fruit.

"At first, all right. When he came home, they moved to Hammond, which is where he's from, and before long they had another baby, a boy. And then, pretty soon, he strayed off with some other woman. Gone and can't be found. Poor girl is working at a low-paying job, trying to raise her babies."

"She couldn't come back here with you?"

"Course she could. We've said as much. But she won't. Too proud, too stubborn. Gets that honest, from him back at the house. She thinks her daddy will judge her harsh if she comes back with two babies, manless, looking for help. Or maybe she's waiting, hoping he'll come back to her. Meantime, she pretends everything's fine with her and the children."

She shooed a couple of pesky yellow jackets from the basket and then bent over to gather more apples. "Don't say nothing that would let him know we talked about her. He don't like to talk about her problems. Tight-lipped old man." Standing upright, she rubbed the small of her back. "Bending over is easy enough. It's straightening up that hurts. There, that'll be enough for a pie and a few extras to eat. I love apples as much as he does mashed potatoes."

THE PIE BAKED IN THE OVEN on top of the black and white kerosene stove she used when it was too hot to fire the kitchen range. It was already beginning to smell like pie, but sitting alone, waiting for it to finish baking, she fretted about what else to cook for an evening meal. It was all right to make do with vegetables and bread for noon—and the unexpected guests had been appreciative—but she wanted to provide a more substantial meal for evening. She'd gotten the final good out of a cured ham a couple of weeks ago when she boiled the bone with a pot of beans, and she'd fried the remaining spring chickens in July. She supposed she could slaughter an old layer for chicken and noodles, but she'd better do it quick. Any of those tough birds would need a slow simmer to be edible.

PHIL THUMPED ON THE LATCHED DOOR of the chicken house and yelled, "Bess, what you doin' in there, besides making a racket?"

She opened the door and stood there, a long wire hook in her hand, dust and feathers swirling beyond her. A few old red hens yelped accusingly and scurried from corner to corner. One ancient bird with a bare, sunburned back and not one tail feather perched atop the feed barrel, nearly falling in each time she whooped.

"Trying to catch a hen that's not old as Methuselah. One I can cook for supper." She sounded exasperated.

"Don't go to no trouble for us, missus," Z. K. said. "Besides, if I had my choice, I'd vote for fried chicken . . . like that young rooster I spied over in the corner of the lot just a minute ago."

"Where's that? We done dressed and ate all the young chickens," she said.

"Loan me that hook just a minute," Z. K. said, and then handing it to Herman, "Right over there in that clump of goldenrod. Quick and quiet, and you'll have him."

The white rooster leaped straight up and cried bloody murder, but Herman had already snared its bright yellow legs with the wire. He handed the bird to her.

"Can't be one of ours. Ours was red, and besides, we had twelve and ate twelve. Where could he have come from, do you

suppose?"

Phil shook his head.

"Maybe one of your broody hens stole a nest and raised a few chicks you never saw," Z. K. suggested.

"Maybe, but I don't see how she could have done that without me knowing, or without the weasels or hawks catching them. And it's fat, too, like a bird been eating grain, not bugs and weed seeds." She fingered the bird's meaty breast.

"Well, it'll be a right good supper," Herman said, his laughter splitting the sky.

"MORE PIE?" BESS OFFERED.

"Wish I could but I can't," Z. K. said. "You saw that pile of bones by my plate, not to mention the potatoes and cole slaw and hot bread that went with the chicken."

"Hope you didn't mind eating potatoes twice in one day," she said, "but Phil thinks fried chicken ain't complete without mashed potatoes and gravy."

"He's right," Herman agreed. He pushed back his chair and stood. "Couldn't ask for a better meal than this one. Like they say, hate to eat and run, but we'd better head for the car if we're going to make that hike by sundown ahead of the tow truck. Besides, there's a bank of dark clouds in the west. We may get rained on."

"Oh," Z. K. groaned. "Sure hate to think about dragging this dinner across those four miles."

"No reason to walk," Phil said. "I'll bring around the horse and cart and you can leave them with Miss Curtis. She's just a quarter mile from where your car is. Put the horse in the shed and tell her I'll call for it tomorrow."

"Sure appreciate that. Herman, you go help him and let me know when you're ready."

"Can't tell you how much we appreciate your hospitality, missus," Z. K. said when they were alone. "You treated us like family—no, better'n family."

"It can get lonesome back here, just the two of us. Weeks go by sometimes without seeing anyone except each other. Good to have a new face to look at and hearty appetites to cook for." She raised her hand to mask a yawn that overtook her. "Excuse me. All at once, I feel bone tired. I'll sleep good tonight, I believe."

"Remember what we talked about earlier—about the two of you going together?"

She nodded.

"Well, if you want to, just go to bed at sundown. That's all you have to do. Tonight's the night. Just go to sleep and he'll come to get you. You'll recognize that durn giggle."

She nodded again.

"Now, if you decide against it, you better stay awake and leave the house before the storm comes. Go away from the river. Up to the barn—that's higher."

"Much obliged," she said.

"WELL, THIS IS A SURPRISE," Phil said from their bed. "You're not staying up late tonight?"

She nestled next to him and took his thin, work-hardened fingers in hers. "Thought I'd copy you and go to bed with the chickens. Truth is, I'm real tired and I think I'll be able to sleep right through."

"Bet you don't. Bet neither of us does. Big storm coming from the west. We'll be hearing thunder soon."

In their sleep they did hear the thunder but even as it intensified, it seemed far away, remote, part of a glorious dream rather than a menace closing in on them. So instead of arousing

themselves to judge the storm's fierceness, they drew closer to one another, sleeping, touching, two moving together to be as close as one. The winds blew and the rain pounded but they did not notice the water rising, the river possessed, driven to a seething fury. They did not hear the sighing of the venerable house as yard after yard of earth was swallowed by the insatiable torrent. They did not feel the motion as their home—their bier—left its foundation and began to ride the flood.

NO ONE THOUGHT TO COME SEE about the old couple until the third day following the storm. First two days everyone was too busy cleaning up and talking about the damage, but on the third day Mr. Petersen, the mail carrier, and old Miss Curtis came poking down the lane. She wondered why Phil hadn't come after his horse and enlisted Petersen to go with her to see about them. He looked in their box at the main road and saw the letter from Jeanette he had delivered the day before had not been collected. At the other end of the lane, all seemed to be in order as they passed burial plot and grove, barn and garden . . . until they came to the river, a muddy, spent force where the white house had stood.

"The house and the front yard . . . just gone," Miss Curtis lamented to anyone who would listen. "The river had been way up there. Higher than anytime I can remember in my sixty years of living near it. But no sign of the house, no sign of the elm tree that shaded the front yard, . . . no sign of the front yard. Just river, where they used to sit enjoying the breeze and snapping beans. Poor Phil, poor Bess. Done taken by the river."

OF COURSE, MISS CURTIS HERSELF has long since been taken, as have most of the people who knew Bess and Phil. Forty years is a sizable chunk out of anyone's life. Jeanette is dead, too, but she rests far away, not in the family burial ground. She returned that once, a few weeks after the flood. She needed to witness with her own eyes what had happened, and even with no bodies to mourn and bury, she wanted to erect a memorial to them. With borrowed money she bought a gray granite stone, a modest marker that reads Elizabeth Burrows Strong, 1880-1948, and Philip Strong, 1879-1948. You can go see it for yourself, if you've a mind to take a hike back there. Go in June, if you can, when the oak is fully leaved and the linden's sweet yellow flowers are hosts to hundreds of honey bees. The burial ground is overgrown now, so if you're an outsider you may have trouble finding it. Here's how: look for the oak and linden standing side by side, like lovers holding hands. They stand barely inside what's left of the low stone wall that Phil and Bess tended so carefully. A few yards beyond them you'll see the granite marker. But that's just a stony tribute to Jeanette's remorse. Go back to the trees and stand between them. You can put one arm around the linden and the other around the oak. Listen for the bees and squirrels. That's how you find Bess and Phil. ■

Author's Note: The classical version of the encounter between the gods Zeus and Hermes and the faithful old couple Baucis and Philemon is in book eight of Metamorphoses by the Augustan poet Ovid (43 B.C. - A.D. 18). My adaptation is dedicated to THB and VRB, whose union combines the sinew of the oak and the sweetness of the linden's flowers.

A Piece of Your Mind

A recent survey told us what you like—and don't like—about Towers.

You like reading about your fellow alumni, campus events and faculty. You are less interested in seeing stories on world matters and probably wouldn't pay a subscription to receive it. These are a few of the conclusions we gathered from a readership survey sent out last summer concerning *Towers* magazine.

Around 20 percent of the 200 readers selected randomly for the survey returned the four-page questionnaire asking for opinions about content, frequency and design of your alumni publication. More than half who responded were women and a majority of respondents were aged 30 to 49. The sampling represented 10 states from all around the country.

Better than half of those responding read some or half of *Towers* while almost a third read most of it. A few read all of it and two read none of it.

Fifty-three percent of those surveyed receive other alumni publications and it appears *Towers* stacks up or ranks better for three-fourths of those responding.

Should *Towers* be published more frequently? Our respondents say that the current frequency—four times a year—is about right. A few feel, however, that it should come out less often.

It didn't surprise any of us to find out that "Class Notes" is the most frequently read section of the magazine. "Class Notes" also receive the highest approval rating for coverage. It would appear, however, that our readers also like a sprinkling of other College news, and that our coverage is "good" for alumni activities, campus and sports events, faculty and administrative news, and student news coverage.

More than half of our surveyed readers perused the Annual Report/Honor Roll with one-third indicating they read both the introductory/summary information in the beginning and the Honor Roll.

Apparently our format is pleasing and most do not want to see it changed. Eighty-nine percent said they enjoy the feature-oriented focus of *Towers*.

When asked whether they would pay a subscription to *Towers* if it became necessary, a whopping 67 percent said no, but the remaining third said yes. One generous reader offered "any amount that was necessary" when asked, "What would be a fair price?" Most thought \$5 to \$10 reasonable.

In determining the kinds of articles readers prefer, the most popular category was alumni features. Comments revealed a liking for features on alumni of national prominence, though one reader asked us to "focus on all alumni, not only those that are wealthy."

The survey results also show you like articles about campus events and student life. Other popular themes are faculty news and, to a lesser extent, news about academic programs and admission news and policies.

Fund-raising news and the financial status of the College received tepid responses, but almost three-fourths of those surveyed responded they were "somewhat" to "interested" in the goals and policies of the College.

General comments ranged from "I'm not interested in *Towers*" to "I look forward to *Towers* arrival." We were admonished for our proofreading foibles and two respondents suggested we make the articles shorter since "people don't have the time to read long articles."

Another comment regarded the problem with "almost all mailings from Otterbein: they are frequently after the deadline or too close to do much good." Overall, however, the comments were favorable: "Keep up the good work."

What conclusions can we draw from our exercise in opinion-gathering? First of all, not to draw too many conclusions. We realize this is but a

small sampling—only about one-third of one percent of our readership—so we cannot assume all opinions of all class years were represented. Yet feedback in any degree is important to us—your letters are read in earnest and often help us set the course for the years ahead.

It might interest you to know that we exchange complimentary subscriptions with numerous colleges and universities around the country. We on the editorial staff are alumni of various institutions too. We know what we like to see in our own alumni publications and temper that with what needs to be said to the Otterbein constituency. If we can draw any conclusion from our survey, it would be that it's not so much *what* is being said, but *how* the information is presented to you. From what we can tell by the responses, we're doing alright, but we could do better.

To start with, it is our hope to involve more alumni in the editorial process, whether that means an alumni/staff editorial board, or more alumni authors, or more news about alumni. As for other plans, we will probably do more of what has received favorable reviews—same format, frequency, types of features—only we will try to do it better and more efficiently. We already have computerized much of our operation and are still mastering the system's quirks, but we're getting there.

We constantly evaluate our efforts and hope you feel free to do so as well. As always, your suggestions, your comments and your criticisms are welcome. We like to know what you think; please don't wait for the next survey! ■

CLASS NOTES

Compiled by Carol Define

1939

Fritz Brady scored his first hole-in-one in 22 years of golf at Village Green in Bradenton, Fla. He aced the 145 yard hole using a 3-wood.

1948

Richard "Dick"

Pflieger was inducted into the Gahanna-Lincoln High School's Athletic Hall of Fame, Gahanna, Ohio. He was head football coach from 1951 to 1958. Dick's teams won 45 games, lost 12 and tied one. His teams had two undefeated seasons and won four championships.

1957

Bruce Beavers recently performed his 12,440th wedding. He also was appointed Lt. Colonel chaplain by the governor of Ohio to be the state chaplain for the Ohio military reserve.

1958

Patricia Weigand Bale is chair of the English department at General William Mitchell High School in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Donald Bell retired as the audio-visual director of the Whitehall City Schools, Whitehall, Ohio, after being with the school system for over 33 years.

Raymond W. Cartwright was appointed housing director by the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission (PHRC). He will direct the statewide enforcement of state laws

which prohibit discrimination in housing and commercial real estate.

Dave Gravel and wife Barbara spent the summer touring Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

1962

Ronald Ruble was selected artistic director of the Caryl Crane Children's Theatre at Firelands College, a training and production program for children ages 10 through 18. Dr. Ruble teaches classes in children's theatre, mime, creative dramatics, voice and dialogue, and serves as play director for CCCT productions.

1963

Tony Hugli has launched a new scientific journal called *Protein Science* which was published in January. He is one of the four founding associate editors along with the renowned editor, Dr. Hans Neurath.

Larry L. Wilson coached Perry High School's basketball team of 1990-91 to a 24-2 record, winning his 6th consecutive Federal League title. They won the sectional, district, and regional Division I championships, making it all the way to the state semi-finals.

1965

Heidi Haberman Marks is employed by Virginia Beach City Schools as director of guidance at Cox High School. She has worked with the Virginia Beach Schools since 1968.

From Here to Oahu

Carl Becker '49 and a colleague, both retired professors at Wright State University, spent an interesting three weeks in the Hawaiian Islands last summer. Having recently authored a book about their experiences during World War II, the pair decided to recreate an incident from James Jones' novel *From Here to Eternity*. Becker and co-author Robert Thobaben received the necessary clearance from the Pentagon to retrace the 10-mile hike carried out by the novel's lead character Pvt. Robert E. Lee Prewitt.

Becker reports that the two historians not only completed the hike (thankfully, without the 70 pounds of field gear as described in the novel), but they also located the sand trap on the golf course where Prewitt was killed. Becker admits they are "into Jones."

Look for Becker's and Thobaben's book, *Common Warfare: Parallel Memoirs by Two World War II GIs in the Pacific* to be published this year by McFarland & Company, Inc., Jefferson, N.C. ■

1966

James Sells is the department chair for computer management and applications systems at Keiser College in Melbourne, Fla. He is teaching both day and night classes along with his administrative duties.

1967

Bruce King is an assistant professor of mathematics at Westfield State College, Mass. He is a candidate for an Ed.D. at the University of Massachusetts.

Janet Radebaugh Purdy teaches business classes at Stautzenberger College in Findlay, Ohio. Stautzenberger is a two-year college with associate degrees in medical technology, secretarial, accounting and computer operations.

1968

Gwendy Miles works as a paralegal and sings at her

church. She has three children, Katie, 15, Krista, 12, and Will, 10.

Kay Hedding Mitchell

is currently an LD tutor for Barberton City Schools. She and her husband Steve live in Uniontown, Ohio. Steve

Soprano Will Perform During I.S. Festival

Soprano Janis Peri '64 will return to campus for a recital in conjunction with the annual Integrative Studies Festival. The performance is scheduled for Sunday, May 3 at 7 p.m. in Riley Auditorium (Battelle). Peri's specialization in music by African-American women fits in with this year's I.S. Festival theme of African-American Culture.

Peri also will speak to students at an I.S. music course at 2 p.m. the following day. Both events are open to the public. ■

recently assumed the duties of Director of Educational Services at the PBS TV station in Kent. They are host parents for a 16-year-old German exchange student.

Paul Reiner, president of Oakland Nurseries, Columbus, has been elected chairman of the 1992 National Convention of the American Association of Nurserymen which will be held in Columbus.

1969

John K. Farnlacher returned the Seth Thomas regulator wall clock in Courtright Memorial Library to working condition. This continues a three-generation history of clock work for Otterbein—done also by grandfather George and father **Karl Farnlacher '48**.

John Finch is the director of medical/rehabilitation services for the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation.

Carol McCoy Morrison is a candidate for ordination in the Presbyterian Church and has graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary.

Susan Palmer received her Ph.D. in Science Education from The Ohio State University. She currently is employed at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, as a visiting assistant professor of chemistry. She is also the executive director of CO-SEN, the Carolinas and Ohio Science Education Network, a consortium of colleges committed to encouraging students to study science.

Dennis Prichard was appointed to the position of sales manager for the library products division of KAPC

(Kent Adhesive Products Company).

1971

Susan Casselman received her doctor of clinical psychology degree from the Consortium of Professional Psychology, Norfolk, Va., Colleges.

Jerry E. Ferris has been promoted by the investments office of Nationwide Insurance Columbus, to director of mortgage loan servicing. He and wife Barbara have two children.

Sue Crane Pasters is in her third year of employment with Ohio Wesleyan University, Delaware, Ohio, where she is the associate director of community service.

Jerry West teaches Spanish and social studies at Wynford High School in Bucyrus, Ohio. He also coaches swimming at Bucyrus YMCA. Wife **Barb Green West '74** teaches Spanish at Galion High School. They have three children, Jared, 13, Jonathan, 9, and Joanna, 6.

1972

Katrina Steck Mescher and husband Tony spent six months of 1990 in London, England. Tony is a professor of anatomy in the Indiana University School of Medicine; the family joined him in his sabbatical in London. The Meschers have two sons, Ben, 10, and Jeremy, 5.

1973

Michael Bridgman received a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University's Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering. Wife **Cynthia Hupp Bridgmen '75** is employed as an administrative assistant in the Government Affairs Office of the Dial Corporation in Washington, D.C.

1974

Betsy Ostrander Lavric teaches 4th grade at Hawthorne Elementary in Westerville. She now lives in Gahanna with husband Boris and children, Katie, 9, Kristen, 6, and twin sons, Michael and Matthew, 3.

1975

Deborah Collins Agan works for Schottenstein Stores Corporation. She provides PC computer support to 55 stores in 11 states.

Bill Brewer has joined The Association for Quality and Participation (AQP) as the organizations manager of marketing and communications, Cincinnati.

Wallace A. Gallup recently was awarded first place in a poetry contest at Finger Lakes Community College, Canadawigua, N.Y. During his undergraduate years, his poems were published in *Odyssey*.

1976

Gay Leach Mastbaum teaches pre-school for the

City of Kettering Parks Recreation and Cultural Arts Department at Tot Lot Pre-school. She co-teaches a class of three year olds.

1977

Thomas R. Graham recently accepted the position of senior vice president of human resources and administration with Hughes Aircraft Employees Federal Credit Union in Manhattan Beach, Calif.

Sandra Walrafen

Jarvis is in her eighth year of teaching third grade in the Wautoma area schools. Husband Joel is director/manager of United Methodist Camp Lucerne located in Neshkoro, Wis. They have three sons, Matthew, 12, Corey, 8, and Brandon, 4.

1978

Dianne Grote Adams and her husband recently built a house in the Westerville area. Dianne manages the office for an environmental consulting firm in town. She and husband Bill have two sons, Chris, 7, and Rob, 5.

Robert Talpas is a teacher and athletic director at New Albany High School and is in his 14th year as head baseball coach. He and wife **Jeanie Hickman Talpas '77** have two sons, Rob, 8, and Jim, 6.

1979

Judith Harrell Davey currently is employed as assistant controller of McNeill Enterprises, Inc., a franchise of Domino's Pizza with 19 stores in south-central Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky. She and husband Linn have two children.

Happy Anniversary, Arbutus!

Epsilon Kappa Tau Sorority, founded in 1917, will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary during Homecoming 1992. The sorority alumnae are planning a special celebration luncheon to be held at the Church of the Master immediately following the Homecoming parade. Arbutus alumnae are invited and encouraged to attend the special anniversary luncheon. Watch for more details. ■

1980

Jeff Ciampa plays bass guitar and is the lead vocalist of the rock group "Zero One." Their first compact disc was released in 1991. The disc was recorded and manufactured by Sisapa Record Company.

Paul Hritz is employed as a key account representative with 3M Company. Paul and wife Susan live in Westerville.

1981

Elaine Clinger Sturtz is currently an associate minister at Bexley United Methodist Church in Columbus.

1983

Mark Holm is a field representative for Indianapolis Vault Company Ltd. He works in the area of business records and storage of computer media.

1984

Mark Mattox of Campbell, Calif., received his masters degree in Physics from San Jose State University. His thesis concentrated on computer simulations of spiral galaxies. He has worked for Lockheed Missiles and Space Company for six years as a senior research engineer in the space systems, advanced technology group.

1985

Greg Hippler is an account representative with Kimberly-Clark Corporation. Wife **Martha Dunphy Hippler '86** works as the community relations manager for Riverside Methodist Hospitals in Columbus.

Cheryl Kager Kintner is currently the new investment technician for the National Rural Electric

ALUM NOTES

Up to Our NAAC with Activities

In order to improve activities nationwide for Otterbein College alumni, the Alumni Association is forming a National Alumni Advisory Council (NAAC). This

council will work alongside the Executive Committee to organize events in various parts of the country. Current members include **Margaret Lloyd Trent '65, Porter Miller '65, Steve Lorton '68, Steve Sturgeon '70, Liz Allen '64**, Dean of Student Affairs **Joanne VanSant H'71** and Alumni Relations Director Greg Johnson.

...Fore!

Following on the success of last year's "Otter Scramble," another is scheduled for **May 3-6**. This year participants will golf at the West Port Country Club in Denver, N.C., and Cedarbrook Country Club. The event includes three days of golf on championship courses, round trip transportation by "O" Club bus, Otterbein College sportswear, tournament entrance fee, prizes, three nights lodging, banquet dinner, three breakfasts, all green and cart fees and alumni get-togethers.

Join Us for Alumni Weekend

Be sure to mark **Alumni Weekend, June 12-14**, on your calendar.

This year Alumni Weekend will be exactly the way it has always been with emeriti alumni and all the reunion classes returning to campus in June. However, in 1993, the spring Alumni Weekend will be an event for only emeriti, 50th and 45th class reunions. All other reunion classes will return Homecoming Weekend to hold reunions.

This will allow events aimed specifically at emeriti alumni and alumni holding 50th and 45th reunions to be scheduled in the spring. The others meeting over Homecoming Weekend will be able to attend the football game, see the parade, attend theatre events, visit the sorority and fraternity houses, etc.

Come Tour with Us

A five-day horseback riding adventure is being planned for **June 16-20**. Alumni are

invited to join Student Alumni Council members and students in the equine program on this trip through the beautiful **Shenandoah National Park, Elkton, Va.**

Step into a world of excitement with a trip to

Nova Scotia July 4-11. Nova Scotia is a 350-mile long Atlantic Coast Peninsula with a great seafaring history and tradition. The province is almost completely surrounded by water, with a coastline that makes it one of the most unique vacation destinations in North America. The Otterbein tour will include an overnight cruise aboard the *Scotia Prince* to Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, then along the Evangeline Trail to Halifax. After touring the area, you will travel to Cape Breton Island and take the Cabot Trail. The tour will finish in the picturesque hamlet of St. Andrews By-the-Sea.

Book passage on a cruise to **Alaska Sept. 2-15**. Nowhere in the world is there another such voyage...a thousand miles of deep channels, pro-

tected by evergreen islands. Today you view the passing panorama from the comfort of your elegant cruise ship. Then come ashore and see towering mountains, glaciers, incredible wildlife, serene lakes and rushing rivers.

Four weekends during 1992 have been set aside for hiking in the great outdoors with alumni groups. Alumni are being invited to hike **Canaan Valley State Forest in West Virginia on April 24-26, Adirondack Park near Lake Placid, N.Y., on Aug. 29-Sept. 1, Hocking Hills State Park in Ohio on Oct. 9-11 and Hawk Mountain, Pa., in September.**

Start thinking about next year! In May 1993, alumni can **cruise the delta** on a paddlewheel boat. Climb aboard the *Delta Queen* and let the big paddlewheeler carry you back to the turn of the century. From Nashville to Louisville, you will see the evolution of a young country—from serene, unspoiled landscapes to quiet towns and bustling American cities. So much that is distinctly American began in this part of the country...from the sweet twang of Bluegrass to the rustic arts and crafts of the Tennessee mountains. This is America's wilderness, still full of beauty, adventure and regional character. The trip is scheduled for **May 13-18, 1993.** ■

For more details, including prices and reservation deadlines, contact the Alumni Office.

ALUMNI OFFICE: (614) 898-1401

Cooperative Association (NRECA) in Washington, D.C.

H. Diane Idapence Kirwen is a sales/marketing representative for Qualex, Inc., a division of Kodak. She and husband Larry live Gahanna, Ohio.

1986

Scott Alpeter and wife **Mary Bravard Alpeter '87** have two children, Aaron, 3½, and Ericka, 1½. The family lives in Westerville.

Julie Miller Leyshon is the chief executive of Leyshon Miller Industries, Inc., a mechanical engineering consulting firm. She lives in Cambridge, Ohio.

1987

Jeffrey Leohner is vice president of John H. Leohner Corporation. The company specializes in golf course construction throughout the United States. He currently is building courses at Medallion in Westerville and the New Albany Country Club.

Mary Jo Monte has owned Planes, Trains &

Reporters Lauded by National Organization

The Grove City Record earned a second place award from Suburban Newspapers of America for columns written by reporter **Bob Fritz '87**.

Also recognized was **Marla Kuhlman '88** who collaborated on a story which won second place for best environmental reporting.

Both reporters write for CNS/ThisWeek newspapers in the Columbus area. ■

Artists' Things, a retail hobby shop in New Philadelphia, Ohio, for 2½ years. She carries a full line of hobby and art supplies.

1988

Steven Fricke is in his second year as the band director at East Canton High School, Canton, Ohio. He is also the assistant conductor of the Oshaburg Community Band.

Susan L. Gaskell is a public relations account executive with Shelly Berman Communicators in Westerville.

1989

Aaron Eckhardt is a financial manager for ITT Financial Services in Columbus and is enrolled in the evening masters program at Capital University. Wife **Jamie Beach Eckhardt** is an assistant manager at Marshall Fields in Columbus City Center.

John Gadd is currently a legislative associate for the United States House of Representatives' subcommittee on census and population. He had previously worked for the subcommittee chair, Rep. Thomas C. Sawyer.

Nancy Paul is a partner in a new production agency - Henry Paul Media. The company specializes in producing, writing and directing finely crafted film and video projects. Her title is executive producer.

1990

Julie Leonard is a graduate student at Purdue University in the department of Curriculum and Instruction. She is working as a special events graduate assistant for the Purdue Alumni Association.

CLASS OF 1991

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



In line for diplomas (L-R): Dreama Wade, Eric Wagenbrenner, Lisa Waln, Amanda Wampler.

Joann E. Andris, 3480 Derrer Field Dr., Columbus 43204. Joann is a lab technician for Nestlé U.S.A. Incorporated Quality Assurance Laboratories.

Tamara K. Barnette, 4782 Edinburgh Lane, Columbus 43229. Tamara substitute teaches for the Columbus City Public Schools.

Denise F. Barton, 8147 Worthington-Galena Rd., Westerville 43081. Denise works for Nationwide Insurance as a payroll technician.

Brenda S. Beck, 593 Acton Rd., Apt C, Columbus 43214. Brenda is attending The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

John A. Beel, 24329 Westwood Rd., Westlake, Ohio 44145. John is substitute teaching.

Constance D. Blair, 1633 Bulbank Rd., Apt #12 Wooster, Ohio 44691. Connie is employed by Ben-

eficial Management Company of America.

Pamela L. Bloom, 7200 Green Mill, Johnstown, Ohio 43031. Pam presently is interning in the Cleveland Playhouse costume shop.

Benjamin F. Bohren, Phase III V102, Charlotte, N.C. 28223. Ben attends North Carolina University at Charlotte.

Karen S. Boyd, 46150 Slaters Add., Caldwell, Ohio 43724. Karen is substitute teaching for the Muskingum County Schools.

Kevin N. Cervenec, 86 N. Spring Rd., Westerville 43081. Kevin works for TSC Graphics as a video editor.

Alex Chatfield, 12700 Shaker Blvd. #716, Cleveland 44120. Alex is stage manager for Cleveland Playhouse.

Julie Oberholtzer Chatfield, 12700 Shaker Blvd. #716, Cleveland 44120. Julie is a box office attendant for The Cleveland Playhouse and also works for the Olive Garden.

Sara Koehler Conner, 45 N. Markey St., Bellville, Ohio 44813. Sara is an elementary substitute teacher for the Mansfield City Schools.

University Hospitals in the cardiovascular/thoracic surgery unit.

Kelly J. Earl, 5518 Sierra Ridge Dr., Columbus 43229. Kelly works as a public information assistant for the State of Ohio Industrial Commission.

Karen E. Fletcher, 2074 Stowbridge Rd., Dublin, Ohio 43017. Karen, a regis-

trator, works at McCord Rd., Apt 126, Toledo 43615-3064.

Dale P. Griesinger, 1547 Worthington Row, Columbus 43235. Dale works for The Limited-Express Division as a programmer analyst.

Kristy Moore Grubb, 7566 Kittansett Ln., Pickerington, Ohio 43147. Kristy attends The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

Gretchen Hall, 3834 N. Wilton, Chicago, Ill. 60613. Gretchen is engaged to marry **Aaron Kerr '91** on Aug. 15, 1992.

Victoria A. Hauck, 4229 E. Broad St. #36, Columbus 43213. Vickie is attending Mt. Vernon Nazarene College.

David E. Henn, 3385 Broadmoor Ave., Columbus 43213-1615. Dave is a freelance grip/videographer who has worked on several syndicated TV shows.

Jeffrey M. Hill, 16 E. Lincow, Delaware, Ohio 43015. Jeff is a senior programmer/analyst working for The Flxible Corporation.

Chris W. Huesman, 1658 Pierpont Dr., Westerville 43081. Chris teaches eighth grade health and physical education for the Jonathan Alder Local School District.

Sally A. Kammer, 415 Finstock Ct., Gahanna, Ohio 43230. Sally is a staff consultant at Andersen Consulting.

Kimberly E. Kaser, 4608 Roses Run, Aiken S.C. 29803. Kim teaches at the North Aiken Elementary School.

Paul T. Kavicky, 3503 Castleton St., Grove City, Ohio 43123. Paul works as a self-employed magician and D.J.

Jeffrey T. Kissinger, 583 Broad St., Wadsworth, Ohio 44281.

Vipop Kovitkanit, 5515-C Coachman Rd., Columbus 43220. Vipop attends Ashland University.

Stephanie Morgan Lauderback, 66777 Barrett Hills Rd., Cambridge, Ohio 43725. Stephanie, a social worker, is employed by Six County, Inc. She is a case manager for seniors.



ED SYGUDA

1991 graduates Eric Bohman and Susan Bower

Mark J. Cronley, 1268 Belden Rd., Columbus 43229. Mark works for Chemical Mortgage Company as a programmer/analyst.

Joy L. Davis, 4889 Kingshill Dr. Apt. 321, Columbus 43229. Joy is a graduate student at The Ohio State University and works part-time for the Association for the Developmentally Disabled.

Ellen R. DeRhodes, 8147 Worthington-Galena Rd., Westerville 43081. Ellen is a leasing consultant for Oxford Realty Services Corp.

Janice Wymer Durant, 5232 Scioto Darby Rd., Hilliard, Ohio 43026. Janice, a registered nurse, works at The Ohio State

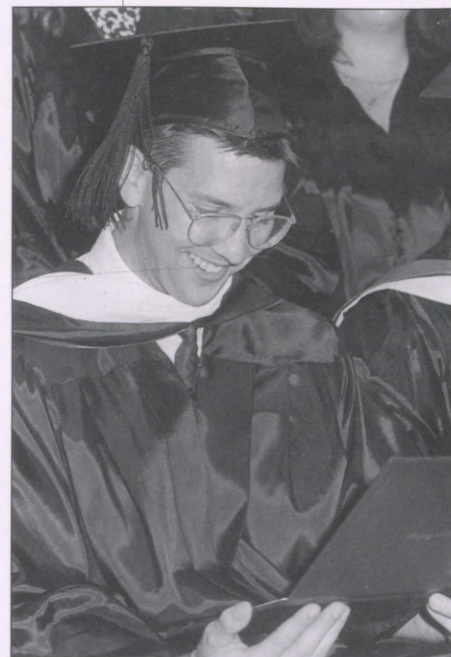
University Hospitals in the emergency room at Columbus Children's Hospital.

Amy J. Francis, 1756 Hickory Creek Ln #5, Columbus 43229. Amy works for Park West Court Apartments as a home program assistant.

Brenda E. Frey, 1530C Highland Ct., Fairborn, Ohio 45324. Brenda is attending Wright State University where she is studying Applied Behavioral Science.

Bryan S. Gillenwater, 2015 N. McCord Rd. Apt 126, Toledo 43615-3064. Bryan is attending the University of Toledo working toward a masters degree in analytical chemistry.

Heidi Jenny Gillenwater, 2015 N.



ED SYGUDA

Signed, sealed, delivered: Gary Shaffer after the big moment.

Lisa L. Manne, 3700 Sutherland Ave. Apt. F-12, Knoxville, Tenn. 37919. Lisa is attending the University of Tennessee.

Kimberly Weber Mathias, 2727 Patrick Ave., Columbus 43231. Kim works for Liebert Corporation as a system programmer/analyst.

Tricia A. McCarthy, 5521 Brush Creek Dr., Westerville 43081. Tricia is working for Deloitte and Touche as a tax consultant.

Catherine L. McCormick, 215 Lewis St., Jackson, Ohio 45640. Cathy is a veterinary assistant for the Walnut Hills Veterinary Clinic.

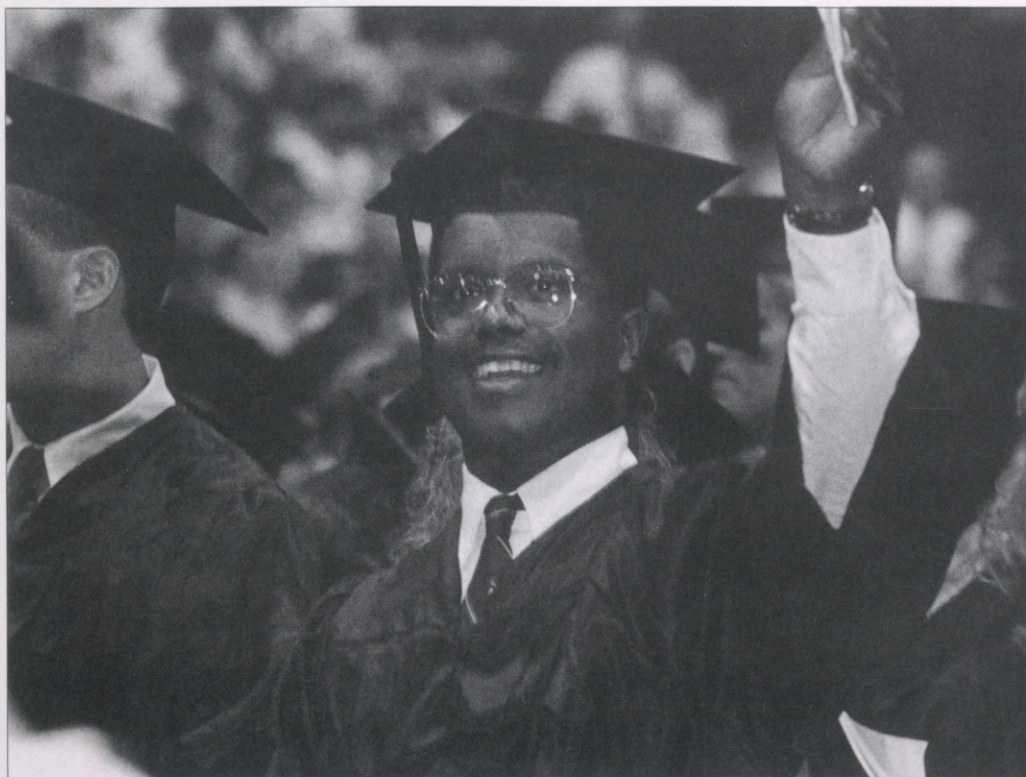
Amee Buehler McKim, 8875 Johnstown-Alex Rd., Johnstown, Ohio 43031. Amee is attending The Ohio State College of Law.

Tricia S. Meeks, 2820 Cypress Way # 1B, Cincinnati 45212. Tricia is a full-time student attending Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Jennifer E. Michel, 4262-E Appian Way W., Gahanna, Ohio 43230. Jennifer works for the Ohio Historical Society as a development associate.

Lisa M. Miller, 5980 Brierly Creek Rd., Cincinnati 45247. Lisa is department manager for Burlington Coat Factory.

Melissa K. Miller, 4466 North St., Granville, Ohio 43023. Melissa is working at a Petland store in Indian Mound Mall. She is engaged to marry **Eric Winters '91**.



ED SYGUDA

"I made it!": Wayne Benson spots someone special in the crowd.

Sara E. Ott, 621 5th St., Marietta, Ohio 45750. Sara teaches third grade for the Marietta City Schools.

Colby A. Paul, 231 Pinney Dr., Worthington, Ohio 43085. Colby is employed by the Columbus Junior Theatre. She travels to elementary schools in Ohio putting on plays.

Stephanie Holloway Rader, 366 Belle Meadows, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311. Stephanie teaches seventh grade English and reading at Ben Logan Schools.

Tyler T. Rader, 366 Belle Meadows, Bellefontaine, Ohio 43311.

Phyllis Schultz Ramey, 137 Apt. O, The Post Rd., Springfield, OH 45503. Phyllis works for Ohio Quality & Productivity Forum as an administrator's assistant.

Joseph D. Rinehart, 42 Orchard View Ct., Howard, Ohio 43028. Joe is a sports director and reporter for WMVO-AM radio in Mt. Vernon.

Nicole E. Rubeor, 1328 Elmwood, Columbus 43212. Nicole is an assistant manager for Provident Bank.

Kristin A. Russell, 4781 Willow Dr., Pittsburgh, PA 15236. Kristin attends the University of Pittsburgh working toward a masters degree in social work.

Gary L. Schaeffer, 6016 Ulster Dr., Dublin, Ohio 43017. Gary is a technical sales representative for Ashland Chemical Incorporated.

M. Jeanne Schlairet, P.O.Box 242, Mt. Vernon, Ohio 43050. Jeanne works for BancOhio National Bank in Columbus.

Christine K. Schuler, 5518 Sierra Ridge Dr., Columbus 43229. Chris works at Children's Hospital in the cardiac unit.

Christine Sullivan Schwinne, 6512 Roseland Ct., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068.

Brenda M. Shoup, 3481 Woodstone Dr., Galena, Ohio 43021. Brenda is an account services coordinator for Creative Images and James L. Hazelbaker & Associates.

Cindy H. Siracki, 4157 F. Appian Way West, Gahanna, Ohio 43230. Cindy is substitute teaching for the Columbus, Worthington and Delaware Public Schools.

Ronald (Skip) M. Skolnik Jr., 9511 Brandywine Rd., Northfield, Ohio 44067. Ron is a sales representative for Brown & Williamson Tobacco Company.

Tracy D. Smith, 101 Marrus Dr., Gahanna, Ohio 43230. Tracy teaches third grade for the Whitehall City School system.

Karen Flavin Spica, 2631 Thornford Ct., Columbus 43235.

Amy E. Stanger, 1121 Tiffany Dr., Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068. Amy is substitute teaching at various local schools.

Amy L. Staub, 1140 Discovery Dr., Worthington, Ohio 43085. Amy works for the YMCA in Columbus.

Melanie S. Steel, 99 S. State St., Westerville 43081. Melanie has accepted a position with the Department of Defense Inspector General, Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Auditing. She is working at the Columbus field office as an auditor.

Andrea J. Steva, 1185 Mountain Creek #1502, Chattanooga, Tenn. 37405. Andrea works for the Graysville Youth Camp as an outdoor therapist working with troubled boys.

Steven J. Strosnider, 983 Cross Country Drive West, Westerville 43081. Steve works as an auditor for the Department of Defense Inspectors General.

Mary Kae Theisen, 3397 Partridge Pl. #201, Columbus 43231. Mary Kae is a social worker at St. Vincent Children's Center.

Toby D. Thomas, 504 Foxtrail Cr. W., Westerville 43081. Toby works for Holdenn Financial Company as an account representative.

Shunichi Tomita, 3-1-8-504 Takiyama Higashikurume, Tokyo 203 Japan.

Kerry A. Tucker, 3450 Partridge Pl. Apt 201, Columbus 43231. Kerry works as a computer programmer for the Limited Express.

Michael V. Walsh, 538 Enfield Rd., Columbus 43209. Mike works for Ross Laboratories as a chemist.

Jodie L. Ward, 13203 Old State Rd., Huntsburg, Ohio 44046. Jodie is working at Carlisle's in Chardon, Ohio.

Kevin Webster, 418 Maple Ave., Box 1033, Utica, Ohio 43080. Kevin is working for State Farm Insurance as an auto underwriter.

Jennifer L. Wilcox, 3024 Porter Rd., Atwater, Ohio 44201. Jennifer is the choir director and assistant band director at Rootstown High School.

Ginger E. Williams, 11404 Appleton Rd., Croton, Ohio 43013. Ginger is an assistant athletic trainer for the Newark city schools.

Mark D. Wilson, 3385 Broadmoor Ave., Columbus 43213. Mark is an assistant director for The Learning Castle, Inc.

Darlene Love Wood, 4824 Twig Ct., Gahanna, Ohio 43230. Darlene works for Gates McDonald in cost accounting.



JACK PIETILA

The Otterbein Cardinal gives a hoot...and so do we. We mistakenly placed 1991 Homecoming Queen Wendy Pietila in the wrong sorority in our Fall issue homecoming photo essay. Both Wendy and mother Mary Jean Barnhard Pietila '61 are members of Sigma Alpha Tau (Owls). How did it happen? Whooo knows? But we're sorry it did.

Good Times, Good Friends

About 30 alumni, family and friends of the College attended acclaimed play *Wenceslas Square* presented at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Ga., in January. Those attending were treated to a backstage tour after the play. A reception followed at the home of Bill and Judi Rabel honoring Otterbein guests and Alliance Theatre actors and management. A special guest from the Alliance Theatre conducted a brief symposium at the reception. Special thanks go out to the Rabels.

In February, 12 students and faculty member took advantage of the winter chill to ski Michigan. They were

joined by three Michigan alumni families. Participants had their choice of downhill and cross-country skiing in the Gaylord, Grayling and Lewiston areas.

The Alumni Association's Lifelong Education Committee held two programs for a discussion on "The Future of the People of Jerusalem." A luncheon was hosted by **Margaret Lloyd Trent '65**, and a dinner was hosted by **Porter Miller '65**. The speakers were Dr. Michael Herschler, an Otterbein professor and chair of the Life Sciences department and Mr. Suhail Zidan, a Palestinian Arab and Israeli citizen. ■

BIRTHS

Birth in the Family?

If there is a birth in your family, please let us know. Not only will the announcement be included in Class Notes, but the Otterbein Alumni Relations Office will send your son or daughter a complimentary bib making him or her an official "Little Cardinal from Otterbein."

1977

Catherine Smith

Seamans and husband Tom, a son, Nathan Thomas, born Aug. 1, 1991. He joins brother Benjamin Charles, 4.

1979

Judith Harrell Davey

and husband Linn, a son, Maxwell Leo, born Dec. 5, 1990. He joins sister Christina Joanne, 7.

Robert Pittenger and wife Barbara, a daughter, Emily Elizabeth, born Sept. 10, 1991. She joins brother John Robert, 5.

1980

Marcha Waddell

Pittro and husband **Samuel Pittro '81**, a son Collin Samuel, born March 12, 1990. He joins sister Alicia Louise, 5.

Jennifer Orlidge

Scranton and husband Paul, a daughter, Rebecca Anne, born July 9, 1991. She joins sister Ashley Michelle, 3.

1982

Hal D. Hopkins and wife

Patricia, a daughter, Claire Beth, born Oct. 20, 1991.

1983

Michael Connor and wife

Colleen Coady Connor '84, a daughter, Caitlin Ann, born Nov. 12, 1991

Sandra Martin

Kageorge and husband David, a daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, born Oct. 1, 1991. She joins brother Daniel, 4 1/2.

1985

Jeffrey Gale and wife Susan,

a son, Stephen Frederick, born March 10, 1991. He joins brother Timothy Robert, 3.

1986

Lisa Pettit Cronley and husband **Mark Cronley**

'91, a daughter, Kara Ann, born July 14, 1991.

1989

Leslie Scott Salamony

and husband Joe, a son, Vincent, born May 16, 1991.

1990

Mary Blanchard Neels

and husband Theodore, a son, Theodore John, born Nov. 12, 1991.

MARRIAGES

1974

Jay R. Hone to Heather A. Wilson on Sept. 7, 1991.

1979

Brenda Histed to Martin S. Searle.

Stacy Reish to John Slater on May 17, 1991.

1980

Paul Hritz to Susan M. Schaefer on March 23, 1991.

1983

June K. Paine to George Gilbertson on Aug. 3, 1991.

1985

Cheryl A. Kager to Christopher H. Kintner on May 18, 1991.

1988

Denise Fitzgerald to James Hepperly on Nov. 30, 1991.

Stephen Shultz to Kristi Blommer on Oct. 5, 1991.

Andrea Strom to Charles Van Sickle on Oct. 19, 1991.

1989

Jamie Jo Beach to Aaron J. Eckhardt on Aug. 3, 1991.

1991

Sara Koehler to Michael Conner on Dec. 21, 1991.

Janice K. Wymer to Frederick Durant, Jr.

Alexander E. Chatfield to **Julie L. Oberholtzer** on Aug. 10, 1991.

Kristy M. Moore to John B. Grubb on Dec. 1, 1990.

DEATHS

Friend of the College

John W. Hance Sr., Dec. 3, 1991, Westerville. Hance was president of Hance Corporation for 60 years and a volunteer fireman. He was a member of Church of the Master United Methodist and Otterbein "O" Club.

Former Staff Member

Verlyn D. Cole, Nov. 11, 1991, Westerville. Cole was a member of the Westerville Senior Citizens Center. He is survived by sister Juanita O'Dell.

Honorary Alumnus

Albert M. Sanders H'70, Dec. 28, 1991, Westerville. Sanders retired from the College after 24 years of service as head electrician. He was a member of Church of the Master United Methodist and Young-Budd Post 171 American Legion. Preceded in death by son Robert, he is survived by wife **Murle McElwee Sanders H '82**.

1922

Robert C. Wright, Jan. 2, 1992, Kettering Medical Center, Dayton. Wright retired in 1961 as advertising manager for Frigidaire after 33 years. He was past president of the Dayton Advertising Club, a member of St. John's Lodge #13 F&AM, Scottish Rite, Antioch Shrine, and St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION			
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3. Issue Frequency			
4. Number of Issues Published Annually			
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1924

Lucille Wahl Lowry, Dec. 28, 1991, Otterbein Home, Lebanon, Ohio.

1930

Forest L. "Benny" Benford Sr., Nov. 16, 1991, Pleasant Gap, Pa. A retired teacher, he taught chemistry and physics at Bellefonte High School where he was the baseball coach for 23 years. Benford was well known in the Central Pennsylvania area as a baseball player. He played in the Centre County League, and was elected to the Centre County League Hall of Fame. He also played baseball for the West Virginia Pulp and Paper company and played semi-pro baseball in Ohio in the mid-America leagues. After graduation he was offered a position with the Philadelphia Athletics of the American League but declined the offer. Benford was a member of the Lambda Kappa Tau social fraternity and Phi Kappa Delta National Honorary Education fraternity. He was a life member of Pleasant Gap Fire Company having served as secretary, vice president and president. He was a member and past president of Pleasant Gap Rotary and a member of the National Wildlife Federation. He had served with both the Pennsylvania and Ohio National Guard. While attending Otterbein he was captain of both the baseball and football teams. He is survived wife Adeline Benford.

1931

Sylvesta (Vesta) Jackson Bender, Nov. 20, 1991, Otterbein Home, Lebanon, Ohio. Bender was

preceded in death by husband **Earl Bender '45.**

1944

Dean Cook Elliott, Nov. 25, 1991, Augusta, Ga. Elliott was a professor of surgery/otolaryngology. He was the founder of the Temporal Bone Lab at Medical College of Georgia Hospital and served as its director. His practice included a residency at Mayo Clinic, chief of otorhinolaryngology at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He was a member of the American Medical Association and the American Council of Otolaryngology. He is survived by wife Gwen M. Elliott.

1947

Margaret E. Brock, Oct. 10, 1991, Crestwood Nursing Center, Hillsboro, Ohio. A retired teacher, she taught three years at Morgan Township School in Butler County and 28 years at the Webster Elementary School in the Hillsboro School System. She was a member of the Marshall Presbyterian Church and attended the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church. Brock was a member of the Hillsboro Chapter #441 Order of the Eastern Star, Delta Kappa Gamma, a life member of the Ohio Retired Teacher's Association and the National Retired Teacher's Association. She is survived by sister, Mary Leach.

1949

Marion Daniels Shoemaker, Oct. 24, 1991, Columbus. Shoemaker was a teacher for the Columbus Public Schools. She was a member of North Baptist

Church. She is survived by husband, **Richard Shoemaker '48** and children.

1953

Jean Thompson Mariniello, Nov. 7, 1991, East Aurora, N.Y. after a long illness. Mariniello is survived by husband Daniel A. Mariniello.

1955

Harold E. Priest, Dec. 9, 1991, Westerville. Priest was an audit investigator with the State of Ohio Department of Mental Health. He was a member of Ascension Lutheran Church, Blendon Lodge 339 F&AM 32nd degree, Scottish Rite, Aladdin Temple Shrine. He was also a member of Kings Fraternity. He is survived by wife Mary Priest.

1965

William P. Varga, Sept. 29, 1991, Upper Arlington, Ohio. Varga taught at The Ohio State University and retired as professor emeritus from Urbana University. He was also a partner in Paul

Vargas and Sons Incorporated. He received a master's degree and doctorate from The Ohio State University.

He was a member of Dublin Community Church and was an Army veteran of World War II. Preceded in death by his first wife, Kathryn, he is survived by wife Susan, daughter and son-in-law, Linda and Charles Mascari, daughter-in-law Janice Varga, and two grandchildren, Kathryn and Mark.

1971

Peter Parker, Oct. 21, 1991.

1972

Doyt Joy Grandstaff, Dec. 7, 1989. While attending Otterbein he was entered in the *Who's Who of American Colleges and Universities*. He taught in the Westerville Schools. In 1988 was recognized with the teacher of the year award.

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MARCH

1-18—"Women Artists, Selections from the Otterbein College Collection" Exhibition, Dr. Judith Beckman, Slide Lecture, 3 p.m., March 2, Battelle
4-Faculty Recital Series: Patricia Corron, mezzo-soprano, 8 p.m., Battelle
5-7-Basketball (M) NCAA Tournament, TBA
6-Early Music Ensemble, 8 p.m., Battelle
7-Otterbein Chorale and Concert Choir, 8 p.m., Battelle
6-7-Indoor Track (M) OAC at Mount Union, TBA
11-15-Otterbein College Theatre presents: "The Tempest," 7:30 p.m. opening night, 2 p.m. Sunday matinee, 8 p.m. all other performances, Cowan
12-Artists Series presents: Penelope Crawford, Harpsichordist, 7:30 p.m., Battelle
13-14-Basketball (M) NCAA Sectionals, TBA
13-14-Indoor Track (M) NCAA Championship, TBA
15-Women's Chamber Singers, 7 p.m. Battelle
19-26-Softball Spring Trip
19-27-Golf Spring Trip
19-28-Baseball Spring Trip
20-21-Outdoor Track (M&W) at Florida State, TBA
20-21-Basketball (M) NCAA Finals at Wittenberg, TBA
28-Outdoor Track (M) OPEN
28-Outdoor Track (W) Otterbein Invitational, 11 a.m.
30-April 30-"Ruth Lozner/ Paintings" Exhibition, Slide Lecture and Artists Reception at 2 p.m. and 3-5:30 p.m., March 31, Battelle
30-Softball at Rio Grande, 3:30 p.m.
31-Tennis (W), Ohio Wesleyan, 3 p.m.
31-Baseball, Mt. Vernon Nazarene, 3:30 p.m.
31-Softball, Wilmington, 3 p.m.

APRIL

1-Tennis (M), Heidelberg, 3:30 p.m.
1-Baseball at Denison, 3:30 p.m.
1-Tennis (W) at Heidelberg, 3 p.m.
2-Softball, John Carroll, 3 p.m.
3-Artists Series presents: Aureole, chamber music for flute, viola and harp, 7:30 p.m., Battelle

3-4-GoF at Muskingum Invitational
4-Tennis (M), Mount Union, 11 a.m.
4-Outdoor Track (M) at Mount Union, 11 a.m.
4-Baseball at Hiram, 1 p.m.
4-Softball, Hiram, 1 p.m.
4-Tennis (W) at Mount Union, 10 a.m.
4-Outdoor Track (W) at Mount Union, 11 a.m.
5-Concert Band, 3 p.m., Cowan
7-Softball at Muskingum, 3:30 p.m.
7-Tennis (M) at Capital, 3:30 p.m.
7-Tennis (W), Capital, 3 p.m.
8-Baseball, Muskingum, 1 p.m.
8-Tennis (M), Ohio Wesleyan, 3:30 p.m.
8-Baseball, Muskingum, 1 p.m.
9-Tennis (W), Wittenberg, 3 p.m.
9-Golf at Ashland Invitational
10-Outdoor Track (M) at Ohio Wesleyan, 3 p.m.
10-Baseball, Denison, 3:30 p.m.
10-Softball, Ohio Dominican, 3:30 p.m.
10-Otterbein College Theatre presents: Opus Zero, 7 & 9 p.m., Battelle
10-Tennis (M) at Wittenberg, 3:30 p.m.
10-11-Golf at Wooster Invitational
11-Baseball, Baldwin-Wallace, 1 p.m.
11-Softball at Baldwin-Wallace, 1 p.m.
11-Outdoor Track (W) at Ohio Wesleyan, 11 a.m.
11-Tennis (W) at Baldwin-Wallace, 10 a.m.
11-Tennis (M), Baldwin-Wallace, 11 a.m.
12-Baseball at Ohio Dominican, 1 p.m.
12-Kincerchor, 7 p.m., Battelle
13-Tennis (M) at Muskingum, 3:30 p.m.
13-Softball at Marietta, 4 p.m.
14-Tennis (W), Ohio Northern, 3 p.m.
14-Baseball at Ohio Northern, 1 p.m.
15-Tennis (M) at Ohio Northern, 3:30 p.m.
15-Softball, Ohio Northern, 3:30 p.m.
15-Baseball, Wittenberg, 3:30 p.m.

15-Brass Ensembles, 8 p.m., Battelle
16-Tennis (W), Muskingum, 3 p.m.
16-Softball, Tiffin, 3:30 p.m.
16-Outdoor Track (M), Home Qualifier, TBA
17-Outdoor Track (M) at Miami, All Ohio, TBA
18-Outdoor Track (W) at Miami, All-Ohio, TBA
18-Golf at Mount Union Invitational
18-Baseball at John Carroll, 1 p.m.
19-20-Golf at Denison Invitational
20-Baseball at Away, TBA
20-Softball, Mt. Vernon Nazarene, 3:30 p.m.
21-Tennis (M), Marietta, 3:30 p.m.
21-Baseball at Ohio Wesleyan, 3:30 p.m.
21-Softball at Heidelberg, 3:30 p.m.
21-Tennis (W) at Marietta, 3 p.m.
22-Baseball, Heidelberg, 1 p.m.
25-Tennis (M) at John Carroll, 3:30 p.m.
25-Outdoor Track (M) at Baldwin-Wallace, TBA
25-Baseball, Mount Union, 1 p.m.
25-Softball at Mount Union, 1 p.m.
25-Outdoor Track (W) at Baldwin-Wallace, 11 a.m.
25-Tennis (W), John Carroll, 10 a.m.
26-Baseball, Rio Grande, 1 p.m.
26-27-Golf at Wittenberg Invitational
27-Softball, Capital, 3:30 p.m.
28-Tennis (M) Mt. Vernon Nazarene, 3:30 p.m.
28-Baseball at Capital, 1 p.m.
28-Tennis (W), Hiram, 3 p.m.
29-Tennis (M), at Hiram, 3:30 p.m.
29-Softball, Wittenberg, 3:30 p.m.
30-Outdoor Track (M), Home Qualifier, TBA
30-May 2-Tennis (W), OAC Tournament at John Carroll
30-May 3-Otterbein College Theatre presents: "Into The Woods," 7:30 p.m. opening night, 2 p.m. Sunday matinee, 8 p.m. all other performances, Cowan

MAY

1-Outdoor Track (W) at Baldwin-Wallace, TBA
1-2-Softball, OAC Tournament, TBA
2-Baseball, Marietta, 1 p.m.
3-Baseball at Shawnee State, 3:30 p.m.
3-29-"African Arts, Selections from the Otterbein College Collection" Mr. Earl Hassenpflug, Slide Lecture, 3 p.m., May 4, Battelle
5-Baseball, Home, TBA
7-8-Golf at OAC Championship
7-9-Otterbein College Theatre presents: "Into The Woods", 8 p.m., Cowan
8-9-Outdoor Track (W), OAC Championship at Otterbein, TBA
8-9-Outdoor Track (M), OAC at Otterbein, TBA
8-10-Tennis (M) at Mount Union (OAC)
14-Artists Series presents: An Evening with Ruby Dee and Ossie Davis, 7:30 p.m., Cowan
16-Outdoor Track (M) at Baldwin-Wallace (Qualifier)
16-Westerville Civic Symphony and Otterbein College Choirs, 8 p.m., Cowan
18-24-Golf NCAA Championship
20-23-Outdoor Track (W) NCAA, TBA
20-Percussion Ensemble, 8 p.m., Battelle
27-30-Outdoor Track (M), NCAA at Baldwin-Wallace
27-Jun. 7-Otterbein College Theatre presents: "Talking With...", 7:30 p.m. opening night, 2 p.m. Sunday matinee, 8 p.m. all other performances, Campus Center Theatre
30-Opera Theatre, 8 p.m., Battelle
31-Concert Band, 4 p.m., Cowan

JUNE

1-14-Department of Visual Arts Graduating Seniors Exhibition, Battelle
3-Jazz-Lab Band & Opus One, Battelle, 8 p.m.
13-Alumni Choir, 4:30 p.m., Battelle
14-Alumni Band, 11:30 a.m., Rike Center

AFTERWORD

The Philomathean Room

Here is where I'd rather read—
Not in alehouse raw and earthy,
Frequented by the unworthy,
Dimly-lit and dark—
Nor among the brush and weed,
Grass and tree and bough and bramble
Where loose ivies twist and ramble,
All within some park—
This is where I'd choose to be.
Here among the literary;
Where sweet verses gently carry
Messages to man—
Here, I'd trust my poetry,
Here be privileged as ever
To share freely my endeavor
Often as I can....

In a pleasant place as this
Altered not by time,
Word and meter co-exist;
Poetry and rhyme.

—Homer R. Weathers

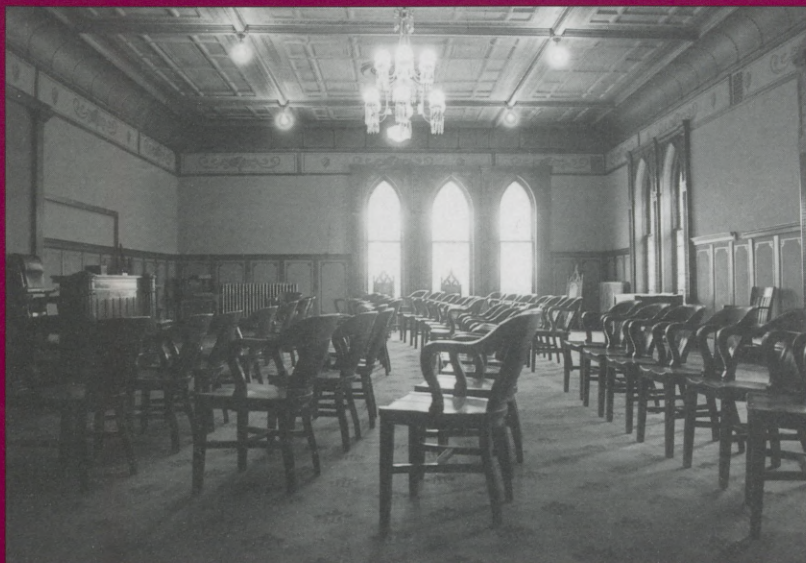
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Homer Weathers never attended Otterbein College. For years, though, while employed with the Ohio School Board Association, he lunched on the campus lawn, wondering what it would be like to enter her halls.

A poet, Mr. Weathers shared—and stills shares—his verses with a group of like-minded authors at various locations: a tavern on High Street (the “alehouse” above) and Columbus’ Whetstone Park of Roses (“brush and weed”).

When a friend requested his company to a poetry reading in the Philomathean Room in Towers Hall, Homer jumped at the chance to finally satisfy his curiosity. The beautifully restored chambers overwhelmed the poet and moved him to pen the above verses. Even now he reveals his awe at discovering a “room built for the purpose of public reading!”

In this instance, a treasure discovering a treasure. ■



ARCHIVES

