

Postscript 1961
Class of 1961 Newsletter



**Save the Date for
Our 50th Reunion!**

Sept. 16–18, 2011

(www.willamettealumni.com/1961)

remember. reconnect. rekindle.

Call for Submissions

If you have something to share with your classmates, please submit a thought or story, such as:

1. My Recollections of Willamette
2. Willamette Then and Now
3. The World Then and Now
4. My Benefits from Receiving a Scholarship at Willamette
5. Remembering a Deceased Willamette Classmate or Professor
6. Adventures and Misadventures

Send your submissions to the Alumni Office at 900 State Street, Salem, OR 97301, or email them to alumni@willamette.edu

Postscript 1961

From our Class of 1961 Partial Scholarship Recipient

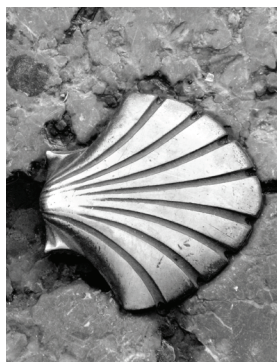
I would like to thank the entire Class of 1961 for creating the Class of 1961 Scholarship Fund. As the first student to receive the award, I can say that it has been tremendously helpful and deeply appreciated. Because of you, future Class of 1961 Scholars will have opportunities similar to mine.

Willamette's tradition of giving is unmatched – thanks to generous people like you!

-Amanda Jamieson '09

A Pilgrim's Tale

By Judy Teufel



Street Marker in Leon

I was next to Bill and Barbara Royer Graham during our 45th Reunion in September 2006 while walking toward Bush's Pasture from the Willamette Campus. I asked Bill my favorite question, which is, "What have you seen and where have you been that is memorable?"

On that sunny morning, I was more than mildly surprised by Bill's answer, and Barbara's echoing nod. He said, "Last fall I walked this old pilgrimage route from the Pyrenees in France across the Northwestern edge of Spain out to Santiago de Compostela." Again, Barbara nodded, and over the course of our walk, I heard bits and pieces of the story of his journey and the trip that they took together in March 2006 retracing much of his trip.

The heart of my surprise at their story rested with my own trip along the same path that I was poised to begin two days following our reunion. In a way, I carried them with me into and on that journey along with lists of names of those people who've been so important to me and my survival. I first heard about the pilgrimage route in 1998 while staying with friends in a small village in the Dordogne

region in France following a long round of chemotherapy. That village happened to be on the ancient pilgrimage route. There were scallop shells carved in stone on the corner by the gate, over the barn, just here and there throughout the region. We were told that there was a lovely church at the crest of the hill, and so we did walk up and investigate. It was a wonder. The 11th Century chapel at the top of the village had fresh and innocent frescoes flung out over the barrel arch in gestures that echoed the sinuous lines of the cave paintings at nearby Lascaux and Font de Gaum. That was when the seed of the idea for this ride on the Camino was planted.

Lascaux showed me just what an impact a place might have in memory. I became concerned about storing up images to help ride out possible dark days that may be in my future. I found that just imagining food and reading about it helped me get through a time when I was not able to eat. It's nice to think that the imagination is so powerful. Over the ensuing eight years I kept feeling the pull of the story of the pilgrimage, but as I learned more about it, I did not feel up to the 500-mile walk. Instead, I attempted to create art work that might take the place of the actual experience – faux souvenirs, if you will.

It was with the push and pull of history and trying not to go to Santiago de Compostela, in the winter of 2006 that

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A Pilgrim's Tale *(continued from page 1)*

I applied for and received the Esther Daymon Strong Lectureship in the humanities from the Catlin Gabel School. From then on I tried to imagine ways that I might do the trip. I created a body of art work related to what I imagined the landscape would be like. One thing that was particularly helpful was a journal designed as a pilgrim's passport. It was a place to collect evidence of travel: the stamps at the churches along the way, tickets and ephemera, as well as

the lists containing names of people who had helped me during difficult times, and the names of those for whom I was concerned. The symbol of Saint James – scallop shells – came to be a theme in my work. With all of the preparation for the journey, it seemed natural that as I fell into step with Bill and Barbara they, too, would be familiar with the Pilgrimage to Santiago.

My journey was undertaken by car, not on foot; it began in Bilbao and

included a visit to the cave paintings in Altamira prior to heading out to Santiago de Compostela. I went with the gratitude of heart that survivors know so well, and was overwhelmed repeatedly by the stops along the road, the sights and sounds of Spain, and the feeling that moving through a landscape can be part of transformation.

The title of my talk was "Steps to Hope." It was delivered on February 6, 2007.

The Baxter Hall Community: 1957-1961 (Part 2 of 3)

By Paul deLespinasse



Living in Baxter Hall could be very educational. As a freshman, I got a lot of good ideas about how to study for tests from Baxter

upperclassmen. And I had never heard of George Bernard Shaw until Chuck Foster, who was a year ahead of our class, suggested a play of his that he thought I would enjoy reading. He was right!

Of course we also gave academic advice as well as receiving it. Sometimes the results were disconcerting. Wayne Gladwin still likes to remember how I helped him understand something in Professor Gillis' economics class, and helped him so well that he got an A on the subsequent quiz. However the senior scholar who graded that very same quiz didn't think that I had explained things very well on that

question, and gave me a B!

Some of us liked to gather in the housemother's living room to chat, and on one such occasion I discovered that Judd DeBoer was not just a member of the "family" but that we were literally family—third cousins or something like that. He was reading a magazine that had an ad for a company that hired students to sell something (pots and pans?) door-to-door during summer vacations. One of the students pictured in the ad was named Muyskens, and Judd commented that his mother's maiden name was Muyskens and therefore he must be related to the student salesman. I knew that my grandmother's maiden name was also Muyskens, and this led to conversations and investigations into family trees and discovery that we had a common ancestor way back when in the Netherlands. After that, we called each other "cuz"!

Unlike many of our classmates (not

to mention my own parents, who met in a physics lab at Willamette back in the early 1930s), I did not end up marrying someone I met at Willamette. However, Willamette and Baxter Hall were instrumental in introducing me to Doris Stringham (Stanford U., 1963) who I did marry. I got to know Rodney Cox '63, when he lived in Baxter Hall, and kept in touch with him after we both had graduated and used to stay at his folks' place when passing through Portland. Doris' folks were old friends of Rodney's folks, and in 1966 Rodney's mother took it upon herself to introduce us, for which I am eternally grateful.

Not all memories, my own or those of those I contacted for this article, fit together neatly. Some are just an interesting jumble: frisbee wars in the halls, papering somebody's room, pandemonium the night of the launching of Sputnik I, creatively named dances, ongoing poker games. I recall curing someone's insomnia by

The Baxter Hall Community: 1957-1961 (Part 2 of 3) *(continued from page 1)*

prescribing vitamin C—the placebo effect?

To share your stories of Baxter Hall, or other independent houses, send them to

alumni@willamette.edu. They may be included in one of our next editions.

Doing Well by Doing Good

By William L. Richter

Those of us who grew up in the 1950s might remember “Doing well by doing good” as the last line of a Tom Lehrer song. You may also recognize the phrase as a motto of Steve Brier, Senior Director of Gift Planning at WU. All of us should take the phrase seriously, since there really are ways we can benefit ourselves while helping our favorite charities. Here is a short checklist:

- *Gifts of Appreciated Assets.* If you have a stock that has doubled or tripled in value, or a rental property that has been heavily depreciated, donating that asset to Willamette rather than selling it will avoid capital gains taxes and secure a charitable income tax deduction.
- *Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA).* This type of gift will pay you fixed and guaranteed income for life. The current return for a couple in their late sixties is around 5.7 percent, but the rates will be going down January 1, 2009, so you should act quickly.
- *Charitable Remainder Unit Trust (CRUT or unitrust).* Like a CGA, a unitrust pays you an income stream for life, but unlike a CGA, unitrust payments fluctuate. Though inflation protection is built in, the payments could also decrease due to market conditions. You will receive at least a 5 percent return, but can negotiate higher percentage returns.

- *Charitable Lead Trust.* With this option, Willamette receives the income from an asset during your lifetime, with the base asset then going to your heirs. This type of arrangement is particularly advantageous if you wish to transfer large sums of money to your heirs while minimizing gift tax consequences and supporting Willamette.
- *Bequeathing Tax-Sheltered Retirement Assets.* If you wish to leave a bequest to Willamette and pass other assets on to heirs, it is advantageous to give the tax-deferred IRAs or other retirement funds to Willamette. For example, depending on the size of your estate, heirs might pay up to 75 percent in taxes and receive only 25 percent of the account assets, while Willamette would receive the full 100 percent of account assets.
- *Life Insurance.* You can make Willamette the beneficiary and/or

owner of life insurance policies. By making Willamette the owner of a policy, you may receive an income tax deduction.

These are only a few ways that you can do well for yourself while doing good for Willamette. With most of these giving mechanisms, you receive benefits during your lifetime, including the joy of helping students—now and in perpetuity—receive an excellent education at Willamette. Tax advantages help to leverage gifts so that the dollar I give to Willamette today may have only cost me ten cents originally. The Charitable Gift Annuity that I set up 21 years ago has already given me back in income roughly 133 percent of what I originally donated, and roughly one-third of that income was tax-free!

Contact Steve Brier or Shannon Christianson for more detailed information at 866-204-8102. Or feel free to call me to ask about my experience: 785-532-6362



Class of 1961 Reunion Gift Committee

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If you're interested in joining the Reunion Gift Committee, please contact Alice (Stewart) Pailthorp at kpail@yahoo.com