COME…….
From Karen Backlund

Come…to see the beautiful campus that has grown but hasn’t really lost the intimacy of 50 years ago.

Come…to see and learn again about programs, students, activities and professors that meet the needs of a modern university still #1 after 50 years.

Come….to talk to the students of 2009 and see if their vision and spirit is much like the Seawells, the Bunneys, the Levetons, the Harrises, the Renshaws, the Griffins, the Nokes, the Gibbens, the Eaglesons of 50 years ago.

Come….to talk to the professors and see if they share the same dedication as the Truebloods, the Lovells, the Shays, the Sparks, the Maders, the Gilleses, the Luthers, the Springers, the Hatfields, the Monks, of 50 years ago.

Come….most importantly, to rekindle old friendships and find (perhaps to your surprise) much of the same camaraderie of 50 years ago.

Come…yes, come back to Willamette, where all these good things began just 54 short years ago!

Class of 1959
Reunion Weekend
September 18 to 20, 2009

CLASS OF ’59 SENIOR ART MOMENTS (SAM) EXHIBIT

We are excited about the first-ever Willamette University class reunion art exhibit. As of this publication, the following artists have agreed to participate: Carole (Warren) Ackerson, Dick Audley, Karen (Engberg) Backlund, Rosemary (Gilbert) Bell, Kay (Ruberg) Cogswell, Jody (Mills) Everts, Barbara (Duncan) Hewitt, Kay (Sanford) Hotaling, Dave Landis, Dennis Mihm, Jane (Brader) Palmer, Martha (Eagleson) Peterson, Bette (Pitcher) Jackson, Marge (Stout) Steward and Maggie (Morton) Suckow.

We are also exhibiting literary works. As case in point, Joe Stewart has graciously agreed to display his book, Intermediate Electromagnetic Theory, a real spellbinder.

(Continued on Page 2)
In addition, we are seeking written works of poetry, novels and cookbooks, and we encourage those of you who have designed a greenhouse, a playground or a park to submit your sketches. Have you reinvented the wheel, obtained a patent or a better mouse trap? We hope to receive additional items of wearable art, beading, jewelry, weaving and knitting. This is a Once-In 50 years opportunity, so don’t miss it!

In order to ensure proper display, we need to hear from you by July 15. Simply email or call Barbara (Dennis) Barrie (bjbarrie@aol.com or 503-364-6136) or Jody (Mills) Everts (e-jeverts@comcast.net or 503-645-5545).

LOOK WHO’S COMING!
We’re happy to share our ever-growing roster of planned attendees to our 50th reunion, coming up this September. This list is our best guess so far and is based on confirmed attendees and “definite probables” — please let us know if you will also be joining us and we’ll add you to the list. What a reunion it will be!

Gwen (Fried) Acker
Carol (Warren) Ackerson
Sandy (Harris) Adair
Mary (Allabach) Kromling
Dick Audley
Karen (Enberg) Backlund
Barbara (Dennis) Barrie
Frank Bash
Rosemary (Gilbert) Bell
Willard Bunney
Frank Caruso
Sandy (Wagner) Cecchini
Kay (Ruberg) Cogswell
Norm Dyer
Jody (Mills) Everts
Dick Farrell
Karma (Miller) Fowler
Barbara (Roach) Griffin
Bobby Griffin
Nancy (Lee) Hauger
Jay Hauger
Barbara (Duncan) Hewitt
Kay (Sanford) Hotaling
Bette (Pitcher) Jackson
Mary (Kramer) Kryder
Marietta (Lind) Kuykendall
Dave Landis

Gary Larson
Pete Leveton
Bill Long
Jim Manwaring
Bevely (Hamman) MacDonald
Joan (Sherrill) McNamara
Dennis Mihm
Conrad Moore
Caroline (Prince) Moore
Anne Lasswell Nagel
George Nye
Jane (Brader) Palmer
Sandra (Mischke) Pattison
Martha (Eagelson) Peterson
Gary Raid
Patty (Renshaw) Robinson
Bill Seawell
Joe Stewart
Maggie (Morton) Suckow
Celeste (Gibbens) Vaughters
Mary Jo (Smullin) Wade
Carole (Ackerson) Warren
Jim Williams
Don Williams
Carolyn (Miller) Williams
John Wood
Gail (Boden) Zaro
NAME THAT CLASSMATE

Last issue's classmate was Karen (Enberg) Backlund. Congratulations to Sandy (Wagner) Cecchini for submitting the earliest correct response, followed shortly by Norm Dyer, Kay (Ruberg) Cogswell, Gary Larson, Martha (Eagleson) Peterson, Patty (Renshaw) Robinson and Gail (Boden) Zaro.

Because “snail mail” delivers the Yahoola to some people much faster than others, the Predatorial Editorial Board, by unanimous decision, will use a drawing to determine this winning entry. All names will be placed in a hat, or other receptacle, and the winning name will be drawn.

This issue’s mystery classmate was born in Seattle, Wash., in 1937, moved to California and graduated from Burlingame High School, Burlingame, Calif. As a would-be jock, the high point of his high school years was recovering a fumble to beat Menlo Atherton and being on the relay team that won the El Cerrito Relays in his sophomore year. The low point was fouling out that same team in the Peninsula Athletic League finals later that year.

When asked why he chose Willamette, his answer was that he visited May Weekend, saw Don Peterson in his yellow convertible and immediately knew “this is the place.” He added that most Burlingame graduates choose Stanford, Cal or Willamette and he wanted the smaller school atmosphere, along with several other Burlingame graduates who entered Willamette in 1955. His WU days were marked by a number of accomplishments, including: producing records (78s and 45s) of Freshman Glee; finishing dead last in the 100-yard dash in the only WU track meet he competed in; marching his ROTC platoon into a fence, fortunately during drill practice; teaching swimming at the YMCA; managing the parents’ weekend barbeque his junior year; being named Dick Gillis’ senior scholar and serving as president of his fraternity.

These days, our classmate continues to practice and teach law.

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR GUESS AS TO THE IDENTITY OF THE MYSTERY CLASSMATE TO:
Puzzler, C/O Pete Leveton, pete3489@aol.com

THE WINNER WILL RECEIVE A “HIGHLY VALUED” CAT CAVERN GIFT CERTIFICATE.

PASSION PARADE (2009 Style)

What makes your heart race, puts a gleam in your eye, a smile on your face and causes time to stand still?... No, “that” was in 1959!

So we can get better acquainted, we’d like you to share something in your life that has been your passion or brought you special pride and joy. Skiing? Gardening? A community or church project?

We’ll have space near the SAM art show to display your Passion Presentations. An 8.5” by 11” (or smaller) visual, note or a photo album with your name prominently placed on the cover should be easy for all to review. Come on, show us that beer bottle cap collection!
**SANDI’S STASH**

From the Collegian

10/24/58

- One O’Clocks Granted (“Late permissions have been granted to all women students for the night of the Homecoming Dance, announced Jo Heald, first VP. This permission is one of two, to women each semester.” Sandi’s aside: boy oh boy, things have changed!
- Bunney October Rotarian (“Student body treasurer Willard Bunney was selected October’s Rotarian of the Month by student council…”)
- ODK Initiates Twelve Men (“…Men initiated into the university chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa”)

10/31/58

- Storylines: Dean Ewalt Seen Dragging Streets in Flashy New Red Ford
- Ten Speakers to Participate in Tourney (“Student speakers will comprise the WU delegation attending the annual Pacific Lutheran College forensic tournament at Tacoma, WA…”)
- Mortar Board Mistake (“Dean Ewalt and members of Willamette’s chapter of honorary returning from a conference, were stopped in a small Oregon town Saturday night with a flat tire. Dying for a cup of coffee, they headed for the nearest café. The group, including Sondra Roark, Kay Farley, Martha Peterson and Barbara Barrie, sat at the counter and ordered coffee. The waitress looked at them blankly. Then one of the girls realized what had happened. They were sitting at a bar! As discreetly as possible, since the male customers were howling with laughter over their obvious chagrin, they went somewhere else for coffee.”)
- Snake in a Rug (“Beta housemother Hester Payne discovered that a mischievous Beta had put a garter snake in her room. The situation was soon remedied when Tony Meeker discovered the reptile curled around the radiator pipe. Earlier in the evening the same serpent had found its way into Dave Landis’ desk drawer.”)

From the 1958/59 Student handbook:

“**What to Wear…**

This is always one of our first questions. Really, it’s not such a big problem at Willamette. Willamette is more or less a casual campus and you don’t have to look as though you just stepped out of Vogue magazine…

When **Campus Clothes** are mentioned, for women, sweaters, blouses, skirts or casual dresses are in order; for men, it’s shirts or sweaters and slacks…

**Casual Clothes** mean for women flats and hose and campus clothes; for men, slacks and a sport shirt or sweater are just fine.

**Informal** should add heels and hose to the women’s dress, with dressy dresses or sport suits; for the men, suits are in order.

**Semiformal** means something a little more special. Women should choose dressy dresses or suits, heels and hose; suits again for the men.

When **Formal** dress is specified, don’t get excited. You don’t have to rush down and buy a mink stole! Women may wear either ballerina or floor length formal. Covered shoulders are in order for teas, receptions and dinners. Dark suits, tuxedos or dinner jackets will dress up the men on those occasions.”

Joan (Sherrill) McNamara shows us how it’s done!
It was an overcast day in the spring of 1959 as I drove in a caravan of fellow music students to Neskowin, on the coast. After a hot dog barbeque on the beach, a few of us decided to brave the cold ocean water. What we didn’t know was that there was an undertow and a riptide where we were wading and jumping waves. I had gone out with Drury Spurlock (a junior), and a few others were farther down the beach from us. In an instant, I was no longer hitting sand while jumping and apparently had stepped into a pothole. In what seemed like seconds, Drury and I were far apart and also being swept out farther into the ocean. I tried swimming back to shore but was making no progress, and each wave tumbled me under water. I knew I was in trouble. I couldn’t see Drury or any others in the water. The people on the beach looked like ants. I will never forget seeing a fellow student (Ian, an exchange student from Australia) swimming out to me with a board. He got me to hold on to the board and tried to swim me in. It was exhausting, but we finally made it — by going over a few yards parallel to the beach, we were no longer in the riptide. Ian had grown a beard, like many of the men were doing for the Oregon Centennial, and I swear he looked like Jesus Christ! He really saved my life that day!

Others from the picnic were also caught in the riptide trying to get out to us but they were rescued when a homeowner on the beach saw what was happening and called the Coast Guard. I was given first aid, warmed up in a house nearby and driven back to Salem and put to bed in the AXO house. I shook for hours. Drury spent the night in the hospital. I think we both had a form of hypothermia.

The next day, reporters from the Oregonian and Statesman Journal were at the house to interview me. I didn’t realize that the news had hit the radio and that my dad had found out when he was listening to KGO in San Francisco. All he heard was the end of the report: “seven Willamette University students swept out to sea,” and then the names were listed. What he didn’t hear was the first part that said that we were safe. He was frantic until he called the radio station and found out that I was okay.

A few years later, while skiing at Badger Pass in Yosemite, I bumped into Drury again. She still had nightmares about the ocean experience. I was lucky to have some friends who told me to “get back on the horse.” A few of us WU students from California went to Santa Cruz in the summer of ’59, and Jeanne Peasley talked me into getting back into the water. Sadly, she’s gone now, but I’ll never forget her for the encouragement she gave me to overcome a fear of salt water and the ocean.
(Continued from Page 5)

The closer our church/high school class got to graduation, the more Mr. Atkinson made intonations that we might want to consider going to Willamette. This was a man who was directing a huge construction company, Guy F. Atkinson Corp., with projects including dams in Pakistan, huge road and bridge projects such as Donner Pass and Interstate 80, and many Willamette buildings including Baxter Hall, Doney Hall, Smith Auditorium and the fraternity wings. In addition to all of this, he also encouraged, advised and even financially assisted many of us, to attend W.U. This attention came with no pressure or interference, only support. Six of our Willamette Class of 1959 graduates were from Burlingame High Class of 1955 - Dick Audley, Linda Berry, Barbara Jean Duncan, Jim Manwaring, Patti Renshaw, and Bill Seawell - and Mr. Atkinson was very instrumental in our attending Willamette. I will be ever so thankful to Mr. Atkinson for all of his help and support and am glad that my sister, Cookie Manwaring Auvinen, Class of ’62, had the same opportunity.

In closing, this man would be on a dam site all week, fly home on the weekends, see his family, teach Sunday School and fly back to his job Sunday night – real dedication! Thank you Mr. George and Willamette University.

Hope to see you all at the reunion!
Jim Manwaring

Paid for generously by Fred VanNatta