

# Wheaton Academy Connection

Relationships, Excellence and Service to the Glory of God

June 2009



## Service at Wheaton Academy

*Changing Lives  
for God's Glory*

*Adam Egler, Julia Wen, Christine Spitler at an Evening in  
the Furnace event raising money for World Bicycle Relief*

**Don't be deceived by the fact that "service" is the last of three items listed in Wheaton Academy's mission statement as tools for nurturing growth in our students. It is last, but certainly not least.**

**Our missionary map ([wheatonacademy.org/maps/map.html](http://wheatonacademy.org/maps/map.html)) and past Alumni of the Year (like Compassion International President and CEO Wess Stafford) are testaments to the fact that Christian service has been an important part of a Wheaton Academy education for decades. Within our current student body, this tradition is growing and expanding each year.**

### **The Zambia Project: A Catalyst for Renewed Fervor**

In 2002, a core group of WA students participating in a leadership team felt a prompting from Jesus to launch what has become known as "the Zambia Project." According to Dean of Spiritual Life Chip Huber, this student dream helped to transform hundreds of student lives and helped to reshape the culture and mindset of the student body as they began to respond in creative ways to the needs of the poor and sick in sub-Saharan Africa.

Over the next six years, WA students raised a remarkable \$620,000 to support the small Zambian community of Kakolo Village. Their efforts funded the building of a medical clinic, a schoolhouse, wells for clean drinking water, food security programs, and a facility to house local Good News Clubs. These buildings and programs helped to stem the growing tide of devastation that AIDS has caused in that region of the world. Our students' dedication led World Vision Vice

President Steve Haas to note that he knew of no other activity on any Christian campus, high school or college, that was having a global impact like WA's student-led Zambia Project.

But equally important was the impact this service initiative had on our student body and their growth in their relationships with Jesus Christ. Over 100 students joined Chip and other faculty to see first-hand the needs WA was addressing in Kakolo Village, and the life change that these experiences wrought in these students and their peers was palpable. "Life is about way more than just me and my own world," or "God's Kingdom work is so much bigger and exciting than I ever imagined," are ideas commonly heard from students as a result of entering into relationship with the people of Zambia.

### **Overseas Efforts Continue**

Although the Zambia Project officially came to a close in 2008 when World Vision announced Wheaton Academy students had

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# WA News

## Girls Basketball Completes Record Season, Wins Regional Championship



**Wheaton Academy's girls basketball team** advanced to the IHSA Sectional Finals after winning their first Regional Championship and PSL title since 1999. When the Warriors finished with a best-ever 28-2 record, Coach **Beth Mitchell's** leadership and collegiate coaching experience showed as they met tough opponents head-on throughout the year. Junior **Alexa Sharkey** was named to the All-Area Team and, along with senior **Jennifer Lee**, was named All-Conference. Jennifer also won the IHSA Queen of the Hill three-point competition which included hitting the bonus shot, winning \$500 for Wheaton Academy. Mitchell was named Girls Basketball PSL Coach of the Year.

(Front row, left to right: Alyssa Linnane, Ericka Wilk, Kirsten Bell, Becca Streets, Jennifer Lee, Sydney Sharkey. Back row: Coach Beth Rooks, Renatta Gorski, Alexa Sharkey, Kristine Egebrecht, Meghan Grant, Brittany Zaderaka, Coach Beth Mitchell.)

## WA Mock Trial: Lake County Champs



The legal Warriors from Wheaton Academy traveled to Waukegan to take on the best from northern Chicagoland – including large public schools like Evanston, Mundelein and Maine East along with respected private schools like Lake Forest Academy and Carmel Catholic. Captain **Ashley Pivaronas** was recognized as an Outstanding Lawyer in the Lake County Tournament. Ms. Pivaronas has been recognized for an Outstanding Performance in every competition throughout the regular season, a rarity in

Mock Trial competition. Wheaton Academy also had the distinction of having three of their four witnesses recognized as All-Tournament Witnesses: seniors **Sarah Dede** and **Iain Merrilees** and junior **Brandon Butz**. (Front row, left to right: Aaron Pell, Sarah Dede. Back row: Ashley Pivaronas, Iain Merrilees, Jonathan Sturm, Coach Jon Keith, Joel Blunt, Daniel Camerer, Michael Beck, Brandon Butz.)

## Julia Larson Chosen for Chicago Tribune All-State Academic Team



Senior **Julia Larson** was selected as a winner of the 2009 Chicago Tribune All-State Academic Team scholarship. She was one of 10 winners across Illinois. The selection was based on GPA, ACT or SAT score, a creative essay written by the student, and other factors. Varied in her interests, Julia volunteers at PADS (a local organization assisting the homeless) and has traveled to the Dominican Republic to help build a dormitory and to France to rebuild homes. She is co-editor of the school newspaper and editor of the literary magazine. Accomplishments include winning the Daughters of the American Revolution Good Citizens Award, achieving an 800 on the critical reading section of the SAT, and taking fifth place in the Le Grand Concours (National French Contest). As a junior, she served as a page in the US Congress. As part of the Page Model Congress, she composed original legislation.

# Connection

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## Wheaton Academy

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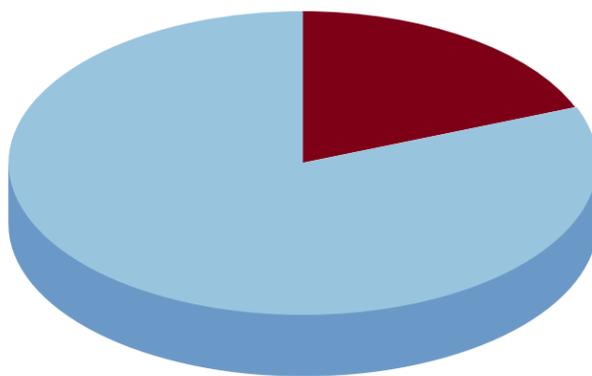
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**Our mission at Wheaton Academy is to nurture growth in our students through relationships, excellence and service to the glory of God.**

# Campaign Update

You Give So Students Can Grow!

*Transforming Every Student: The Campaign for Wheaton Academy* kicked off in the fall of 2007. Proceeds from this effort go to support construction of the new Heritage Field House, the Endowment for Excellence in Education to support our teachers, and ongoing scholarships to keep Wheaton Academy accessible for our students.



**Still Needed:** \$2.27 Million  
**Already Raised:** \$10.53 Million

To make a gift or pledge, visit [wheatonacademy.org/campaign\\_main](http://wheatonacademy.org/campaign_main) or contact Nikki Daniels at 630-562-7580 or [ndaniels@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:ndaniels@wheatonacademy.org).

(continued from page 1)

helped in accomplishing all the community development model objectives originally set out for Kakolo Village, the fire for service and the learning that it brings continues to burn.

During the 2008-2009 school year, our students launched a new partnership with World Bicycle Relief, an organization providing this simple yet crucial form of transportation to African students so that they can attend high school. They've also partnered with Opportunity International to offer micro-loans for business start-ups and long-term growth in Kenya. Their efforts in these and other areas have been so exemplary that local businesses, including Starbucks and an area salon, have begun proactively seeking ways to partner with our students in their outreach initiatives.

These efforts take place alongside other WA programs that have had sustained impact through the years. Winterim student teams have traveled to Guatemala, Honduras, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic, partnering with local churches and missionaries to meet the needs of impoverished families and orphan children through work projects and Bible Clubs. These efforts help to transform many student lives as they spend two weeks in January partnering with God in His global work.

### Local Initiatives Blossom

Another wonderful outgrowth of a student body inspired to serve others is an interest in ministering to those near as well as far. Spanish and Bible teacher Kim Malmquist heads a team of students partnering with area churches and ministries in a program called Puente del Pueblo, or Bridge of the People. They run an after-school children's program that meets in the largest apartment complex in nearby, and largely Hispanic, West Chicago.

"We're called to be neighbors to those in our own backyard. God has opened the doors for us to build an ongoing relationship with children in our community," Kim says. The goal is to meet basic needs, like homework and English language help, and provide friendship. This creates opportunities to evangelize.

Kim is not the only WA teacher involved. Business teacher Scott Marksberry helps coach soccer, and instrumental music teacher Steve Willemsen and his wife lead a music program with Puente del Pueblo.

Sophomore Lindsay Myra tutors third through sixth graders once a week. Sometimes she just hangs out and gets to know them. "Some come from broken families, and I want to show them love by spending time with them," says Lindsay.

In the same vein as overseas efforts, these programs don't just impact our surrounding community. Our students' lives are changed, and their eyes are opened as they witness God's work among the nations – around the globe and around the block.

### A Heritage of Service Continues

God has done amazing work through Wheaton Academy students and their service initiatives over the last decade. This thrilling trend is certainly not new, as seen in our school's rich heritage of missionaries and Christian servants. It is, however, a testimony to God's enduring faithfulness to our school. He continues to work at Wheaton Academy and to allow our students the privilege of serving others for His glory. For this, we are grateful and excitedly anticipating the years to come as He continues to unfold new opportunities for service and growth within our student body.

## Boys Basketball Wins IHSA 3A Regional Championship



This winter, the Warriors did something they haven't done since 1998 - win an IHSA Regional Championship. The Warriors defeated Hampshire 47-42 in a tightly contested game. **Tim Rusthoven** continued his solid play with a double-double (18 points, 12 rebounds), and **Tim Streets** played tough defense on one of Hampshire's top players.

The season was filled with other accolades:

- Two All-Conference Players – **Tim Rusthoven, Anthony Ritchie**
- PSL Co-Player of the Year – **Tim Rusthoven**
- Honorable Mention All-State – **Tim Rusthoven**
- Basketball Coach's Association All-State for Class 3A/4A – **Tim Rusthoven**

(Front row, left to right: Eric Albaugh, Austin Graf, Quinn Gorski, Tim Streets, Jonathan Burdett, Jonathan Lang, Brian Pell. Back row: Asst. Coach Brad Byrne, Dave Toellen, Phil Oster, Anthony Ritchie, Tim Rusthoven, Eli Nupanga, Chris Lesner, A. J. Wyatt, Coach Paul Ferguson.)

## Wheaton Academy Wins Fifth Place at Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering State Finals



At the 2008-2009 Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) state finals, the Warriors earned fifth place among schools with enrollments between 301-700 students. Individual place winners were **Ian Moses** (sixth in state chemistry), **Josh Ellis** (fifth in state physics), **Susie Lee** (fifth in state math), and **David Kelley** (fourth in state chemistry). David Kelley and Ian Moses combined in chemistry to have a perfect 100 in that event, edging out University of Chicago Lab Schools, and keeping them from a perfect team score of 500! In addition to

our chemistry scoring, **Rebekah Delicath** and **Kayla Lindstedt** led our team in English scoring, **Susie Lee** and **Josh Ellis** in math, **Dylan Mooney, Stephanie Pearson** and **Kayla Lindstedt** in biology, and **Josh Ellis, Joshua Rak** and **Jake Jones** in physics.

(Front row, left to right: Rebekah Delicath, Sugie Lee. Second row: David Kelley, Kayla Lindstedt, Stephanie Pearson, Ian Moses. Back row: Josh Ellis, Dylan Mooney, Jake Jones, Coach Joe Kulesza. Not pictured: Joshua Rak.)

## Wheaton Academy Students on All-State Academic Team



Senior **Sarah Daly** was among twenty-five students named to the 2008-09 Illinois High School Association's All-State Academic Team. She received an all-state recognition for her 17<sup>th</sup> place cross-country finish at the state championships last fall. **Mark Phillips** was named to the Honorable Mention Team. Also a cross country runner, Mark finished fourth in the state meet.

# Wrestling is Back

## Boys Wrestling in 2009-2010



With the addition of a wrestling room in the new Heritage Field House, Wheaton Academy will restart its wrestling team. After 19 years of hiatus, WA is excited to hit the mats once again. Coached by biology teacher **Ken Ellis** (pictured at left), they are sure to learn the fundamentals and thrill of competitive wrestling. An exciting season is in front of them.

While not yet fielding a fall schedule, Ken expects the Warriors will head to several tournaments this year.

Ken's connection to the WA wrestling program stems back to when he coached from 1979-1990. He himself competed on a solid high school team near Detroit, MI. While a student at Madison High School, he was coached by the colorful and legendary professional wrestler, Jim Meyers, better known to fans during the 1970s and 1980s as George "The Animal" Steele. Ken's own anticipation about the wrestling program is evident in his huge smile.

Wheaton Academy Athletic Director Paul Ferguson says, "Wrestling is very challenging, physically demanding, and will give some of our young men who aren't on the basketball team a chance to compete in a winter sport."

Wrestling at Wheaton Academy has had a major impact through the life of former coach Tom Jarman. After coaching here, he coached at Taylor University in Upland, IN, and later, at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL.

Alumni and other friends of Wheaton Academy Wrestling are invited to help the school raise the \$30,000 in start-up costs necessary to fully fund this new initiative. Gifts and pledges to support wrestling can be marked as such and sent directly to the Head of School Gene Frost. For more information about the new program, contact Athletic Director Paul Ferguson at [pferguson@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:pferguson@wheatonacademy.org).

## From Painting the Hills of Kentucky to Enriching the Lives of Students

### Faves

Food: Sushi

Author: Wendell Berry

Banjo Player: Steve Martin

Artist: Wolf Kahn

Baseball Team: Boston Red Sox

### Church

Church of the Resurrection (deacon)  
in Glen Ellyn, IL.

### Heroes

His dad, Jack Burgess Sr.

Carl Blair, college professor

Jack teaches Digital Photography, Graphic Design, and Painting at Wheaton Academy and is known by his colleagues as a creative, godly teacher. He wears many hats, including ad hoc artist at WA, called upon for his professional assistance in everything from branding to website layout. His Winterim course for set design brings students together who want to learn the art and craft of theater stage design, skills used in Wheaton Academy's musical.

Books about art, design, education and collaboration fill Jack Burgess' classroom. Student art and photography cover the walls. Piled in corners and leaning against his desk are a banjo, juggling pins, and a balancing device which looks like a cross between a skateboard and a see-saw. There is purpose to all of this, says Jack, "It's about creating a creative space, where inspiration is always just a few feet away, where risk taking is encouraged."

The consummate multitasking teacher, he assisted one student in a complex printing issue, solved another student's camera problem, and offered ideas for a third student's artwork – all while participating in our interview.

### Becoming an Artist

His high school didn't have an art program. It wasn't until his sophomore year at college that Jack realized that he was an artist. Through the influence of friends, including *New Yorker* cartoonist Matt Diffee, Jack switched his major from Accounting to Graphic Design after his freshman year, and then to Studio Art with a concentration in Drawing and Painting his sophomore year. "My parents were amazing. Neither of them went to college but they did everything they could to ensure that I did. They paid for my education, making sacrifices to afford the tuition. They supported me as I worked my way through three different majors."

"I had a late start as an artist... I had quite a bit of catching up to do. For three years, I spent every day in the studio, doing the work of an artist, developing my style, really learning how to paint," Jack said with remnants of his Lexington, Kentucky accent slipping through. He spent the early part of his career capturing Kentucky's natural beauty on canvas.

After college Jack worked as a painter and began showing his work at Mary Praytor Gallery in Greenville, South Carolina. He spent three years painting in Kentucky, Scotland, and South Carolina, helping him see a large range of God's handiwork.

Before arriving at Wheaton Academy in 2003, Jack taught art and coached basketball at Dublin Christian Academy in Dublin, New Hampshire. He found success as a basketball coach, as well as in the classroom. "We took the state championship," he smiled. After five years at Dublin Christian Academy, Jack moved on to work as a designer for Ernst & Young in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

### A Designer in the Corporate World

Jack considers his experience at Ernst & Young to be the most formative of his life. "I worked as an artist and designer in a place that was set up for collaborative work. I learned how to work on a team, the value an artist brings to the thinking process, and how to enable large groups of people to work together to discover answers to their businesses' most complex questions." It was also the first time that he was in an environment in which he was the only Christian.

"I grew up in a really conservative environment, and I think I was really afraid to step out into the world. I realized that I could function and thrive in a secular environment. My faith wasn't threatened like I had been told it would be. To the contrary, it grew. It also gave me tremendous confidence in the value of the artistic perspective. Our clients came to us with issues that they couldn't resolve on their own. I realized that problems get solved when someone gets creative."

### Gaining a Vision for Teaching

Jack also gained a vision for teaching that was really different than any he had experienced before. "We would work 16-hour days and still be completely energized. I realized that we all love to learn, and that when it happens the right way it creates energy instead of draining it." Jack brings that energy to Wheaton Academy, and he sees Wheaton Academy as a place where he can merge all the things he loves: art, faith, and teaching.

Jack knows that the vast majority of his students aren't going to go on to be photographers or designers. He strives to convey to them the importance of the examined life. "He is always talking about the difference between looking and seeing," senior Harrison Cowell said.

"He cares about our opinions," Harrison said, "He respects us. His assignments help us to grow spiritually and artistically."

Dozens of other students could echo Harrison's words. Jack's impact on their lives, artistically and spiritually, is deep. He is a creative example of what it means to be a living curriculum teacher.



# Into the Woods

Scenes from the 2009 Spring Musical Bring in Biblical Values and Fairy Tale Charm

For five nights in late February and early March, the Wheaton Academy community was thrilled and challenged by the richly textured Stephen Sondheim musical *Into the Woods*.

Hard questions about living in a challenging world were asked through the lives of colorful characters we know from stories we heard growing up.

Drawing from the children's stories *Little Red Ridinghood*, *Jack and the Beanstalk*, *Rapunzel*, and *Cinderella*, the musical presented the questions, "What is responsibility?" and "How do we deal with the giants in our lives?"

Over 3,000 people attended the musical. The show included 70 people in the cast, 21 people in the pit orchestra, and 140 people in the production staff and crews.

On the morning of opening night, Corbett Burick, the director of the Fine Arts department and the musical, gave birth to her son Syrus. Corbett made a surprise appearance in the closing night show to the joyous roar of the audience.

(top left) Andrew Craig

(top right) Anna Euler

(right) Michael Mauriello and Annalee Hooson



# The Heritage Project

**In an effort to capture the stories of God's faithfulness throughout the years at WCHS/WA for future generations, we are unveiling the *Heritage Project* at Homecoming 2009.**

The focus of the *Heritage Project* will be to collect the written and/or oral stories of WA alumni, faculty and staff, and families. Our ultimate goal is to create an organizational archive as well as compile some of these written testimonies into a book.

We want your story of how God used WCHS/WA in your life. This narrative might be about a teacher whom God used to redirect your walk, how you met your spouse at the Academy and how God has worked in your life, or how seeds were sown during your years at WA that sprouted later in your life. Your written story should be mailed to the attention of Dawn Earl, Director of Alumni Relations, at Wheaton Academy. Submissions can also be e-mailed to [heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org).

There will also be a *limited* number of recording appointments during the Homecoming 2009 weekend. More detailed information about the format of these "interviews" will be provided in the months to come.

As part of the *Heritage Project*, we want to recognize the families who have had several generations attend the Academy as well as the sweethearts who met at WCHS/WA and married. During Friday and Saturday of Homecoming weekend, a professional photographer will be available to take photos of these families and couples. Specific scheduling details will be available at a later date, but families can start to plan for this opportunity. If you're unable to attend Homecoming 2009, we welcome the submission of your "heritage" photo.

Please pray about your involvement in this project. We covet your prayers not only for the project itself but for those whose stories need to be told. More information about the Heritage Project will be forthcoming. Questions should be directed to Dawn Earl at [dearl@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:dearl@wheatonacademy.org) or 630-562-7510.

## How can you be part of this exciting new initiative?

**There are three ways for you to participate:**

- 1 Submit a written story or testimony via e-mail or snail mail.
- 2 Submit your name for an oral interview at [heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org).
- 3 Register for a heritage\* photo session with your family at [heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:heritageproject@wheatonacademy.org).

\* *Heritage photos are for multi-generational families who have attended WCHS/WA or husbands and wives who are both alumni.*

# Retiring Teachers

## Leave a Legacy in the Lives of Their Students

### Carolyn LeMaire

Life was very different in 1951 when Carolyn Stevenson graduated from Wheaton Academy. She remembers taking a train to the Academy, where there were fewer students, and the art program was just a class or two.

Carolyn found her way back here after college, teaching general art but also working in specialty areas including ceramics, fiber arts, and stained glass.

Relationships have always been a core part of her teaching as she wants to inspire and disciple as well as teach art. About young artists, Carolyn said, "God gives the talents and the passions. They should use the gifts God gave them... high school is where they can try different art forms."

Among her favorite memories was a WA-sponsored trip to Italy, where her students sketched, painted and photographed in the land of some of history's greatest artists.

#### What Now?

"WA has a wonderful heritage, and I feel privileged God has allowed me to have had a small part in it," she said. As she retires, she leaves big shoes to fill. She is excited to keep her relationship with Wheaton Academy by continuing to help with the spring musical and attending events.

### Barbara Roos

Since 1982, Barbara has brought her love of God, language and books to Wheaton Academy. She taught composition, literature and classical mythology before taking on the leadership of the Library in 1990.

Now retiring, her legacy is greater than the mere quantity of good books, but includes her infectious curiosity, her desire to learn, and her passion for bringing this same mindset to each student she reaches.

Before coming to Wheaton Academy, she taught in inner city Denver. For many years, she wrote a column for the Chicago Sun-Times about things to do in Chicagoland. Both broadened her understanding of people and helped her as she taught.

When asked which books she loves most, she quickly responded, "*O Pioneers* by Willa Cather, *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens, and *Native Son* by Richard Wright."

#### What Now?

An avid traveller with past adventures spanning Europe and elsewhere, Barbara will hit the road to attend a wedding in California and see friends in Colorado. She is looking forward to spending time with her husband and family (especially grandchildren!). As she settles into retirement, she knows she will miss the people she works with and the students.

Carolyn LeMaire



Barbara Roos



# Homecoming2009

## Alumni Information

### Save the Date!

#### Homecoming 2009 Schedule, October 2-4

##### Friday, October 2

- 4:30 pm Eunice Wilson Locker Room Dedication (Field House)
- 5:30 pm Alumni Registration begins
- 6:00 pm Alumni Dinner (Atrium) and Alumni Family Picnic (Parking Lot)
- 6:00 pm JV Soccer game
- 7:15 pm Alumni Program (FAC)
- 8:00 pm Varsity Soccer game
- 8:00 pm Alumni Dessert Reception (Atrium)
- 9:30 pm Fireworks (after the game)

##### Saturday, October 3

- 8:30 am Alumni Breakfast hosted by WA Associates (Atrium)
- 9:15 am Campus Tour with Dr. Frost
- 9:15 am Alumni Men's Basketball Tourney (Warrior Dome)
- 10:30 am Wrestling Kick-off (Wrestling Room)
- 10:45 am JV Football game at Wheaton College
- 11:00 am Alumni Men's & Women's Volleyball Games/Reunion (Field House)
- 1:15 pm Varsity Football game at Wheaton College
- PM Student Event

##### Sunday, October 4

- 9:00 am Coffee Fellowship (WA Chapel)
- 10:00 am Homecoming Worship Service (WA Chapel)

## A Look Back at Homecoming 2008

(Top right)

Celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Reunion for Class of 1983 were classmates (from left to right) **Rod Schlenker**, **Joe DeJohn**, **Jill Smith** and **Todd Venema**. Special thanks to Joe who coordinated the reunion with **Leah (Greiff) VanDerMolen**.



(Middle right)

Some members of the Class of 1998 couldn't make it back to the WA campus for their ten-year reunion, so they held their own mini-reunion at Aroma Café in Studio City, CA, last October. From left to right: **Jon Marshall**, **Natalie (Neal) Stinis** and husband Phillip, **Alfredo and Melissa (Betts) Gonzalez**, **Hannah (Sale) Wojnicki** and husband David, **Joan (Williams) and Joel Bennett**, and **Kristen (Sweas) Fenton**. Kristen's husband Eric took this photo. Special shout-out to all the WA alumni spouses who listened good-naturedly to hours of stories!



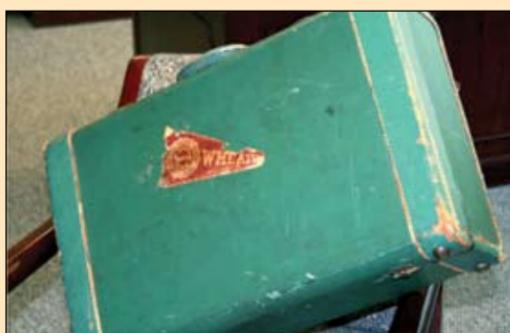
(Bottom right)

The WA Chapel brings back memories for many WA alumni. Here **Phil Scull '58** and his wife Sharon (left) joined **Doug Deming '48** and Vernice Deming, the widow of Doug's brother **Stan '50**, at Homecoming 2008.



## From the Archives

This rugged suitcase was once a graduation gift in anticipation of attending Wheaton Academy. Recently, it was donated to the school by Mrs. Jane (Watson) Moore, class of 1952. Despite years of good use, it still bears the banner of Wheaton Academy.



### AlumNotes & Photo Gallery

Make sure you check out the alumni notes and photos on page 8.

If you'd like to appear in the next issue, send us a photo of your new baby, wedding, family, grandchildren, recent vacation, etc. Photos must be received by **July 24, 2009**.

### Calling All College Students!

As you get ready to head off or return to college this fall, please send us your college address and e-mail.

### Alumni Housekeeping Notes

Keeping our records up-to-date and maintaining contact with you are priorities for us. If you are moving, getting married or changing your contact information, please let us know.

To send photos or update your contact information, please get in touch with Dawn Earl, Director of Alumni Relations. She can be reached at [dearl@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:dearl@wheatonacademy.org), 630-562-7510 or by mailing your information to her attention at Wheaton Academy, 900 Prince Crossing Road, West Chicago, IL 60185.

### Calling Class Leaders!

Are you (or were you) a leader among your WA classmates? Did you help coordinate the last reunion or keep tabs on your friends as they move throughout the country and the world? If any of these roles sound familiar, we need your help!

This summer, WA will be contacting past and current class leaders in search of class agents for each alumni class. Class agents will:

1. Contact your class twice annually,
  - each fall, to encourage them to increase the class' participation in the Academy Club by supporting WA financially, and
  - each spring, to provide information about upcoming Homecomings and/or reunions;
2. Help assemble the committee to plan the next class reunion;
3. If you are comfortable with technology, you can help maintain electronic communication for your class, using WA's online alumni community, Facebook, or combination thereof.

Is this a role you would like to fill for your class? If so, let us know! Contact Alumni Giving Coordinator Robin Frost '03 at [rfrost@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:rfrost@wheatonacademy.org) or 630-562-7526.

# AlumNotes

Send us a photo of your new baby, wedding, family, etc. You can email them to Dawn Earl at [dearl@wheatonacademy.org](mailto:dearl@wheatonacademy.org) or mail them to her at 900 Prince Crossing Road, West Chicago, IL 60185. The first 20 photos we receive by July 24, 2009, will be featured in the next edition of the WA Connection. Please include all necessary information about the photo.



Noah Martin was born on October 31, 2008, to Brian '96 and Jill Case. This little guy weighed in at 5 lbs. 3 oz. at birth but now tips the scales at 15 lbs. 5 oz. Noah's proud grandma is none other than WA's own Anne Case, Director of Student Services.



Rachael DiGiulio '98 and Stephen LaMagna were married on June 15, 2008, in Wheaton. The newlyweds reside in New York where Rachael is an event planner in Manhattan and Stephen is an IT analyst. Their engagement took place in the romantic setting of Venice, Italy, where

Stephen proposed in San Marco Square. They give God all the praise for their union and look forward to the adventures He has in store for them.

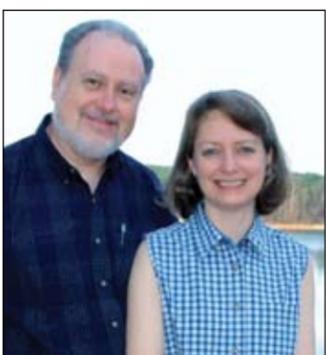


Shauna Lao, Kristin (Williams) Frost, Kelly DeRoo (holding Leiana) and Jenelle (Walker) Schmidt. The four '00 alumnae enjoyed their Christmas "mini-reunion" at which they were introduced to Jenelle's first child, Leiana Arwen, born on October 20, 2008. Jenelle and her husband Derek reside in Raleigh, NC.



WA salutes Cadet Robert Gryfinski! Bobby, a 2008 WA alumnus, is completing his first year at West Point. His parents are Martin and Juanita Gryfinski of St. Charles. Bobby's sister Jessica graduated from WA in 2004 and younger brother Danny will be a freshman here this

fall. Please keep this young man and his family in your prayers as he serves our country.



Cathy and Steve Lawton '69 live in South Carolina. They have been in full-time Christian ministry for 34 years. Says Steve: "In the Lord's providence, Wheaton Academy was responsible for completely redirecting my entire

life and ministry (in only one year)!" Our response: Soli Deo Gloria!



The Chris Mitchell family in northern Michigan last fall (from left to right): Luke '05, Julie, Chris, Nisha (holding son Griffin) and her husband Mike (with their other son Jack), and Jeremy '11. Luke works full-time in construction for Mike, and Jeremy just finished his sophomore year. The Mitchells are filled with gratitude for the genuine love their two sons have received at WA.

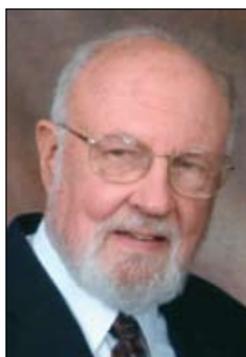


Janet (Beverdorf '88) Comer lives in Houston, Texas, with hubby Paul and their children: Justin (16), Evan (11) and Cassidy (5). She is grateful to the Lord for the blessing of her awesome family. The Comers are actively involved in their church. Paul works in downtown Houston with an oil services company, and Janet teaches 2-year-olds at a private school near their home.



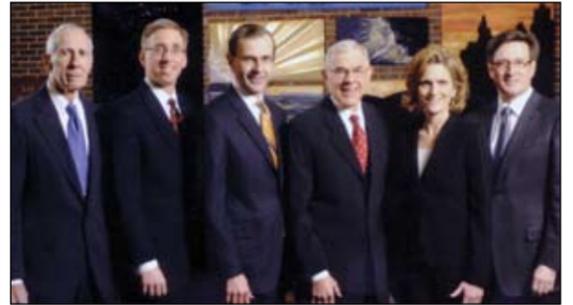
Fawn and Mike Southwell '97 live in northern Michigan where Mike teaches 7th grade math and science. They have three girls: Lacey, Abigail and Lydia. Baby number four is due to arrive in September. The Southwells responded to God's nudging and spent nine months in

Rwanda during the 2006-07 school year, writing curriculum for the Kigali Christian School for Youth for Christ International.



Dr. Robert Eric Frykenberg '47 is professor emeritus of History & South Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Bob's family was evacuated from India in 1942 in the midst of World War II. His missionary parents returned to India in 1945, but Bob remained behind and attended Wheaton

Academy. The Academy's \$1,100 tuition, room and board was equal to the family's mission salary. Determined to complete three years study in two, he worked summers as a gardener, lawn mower, and landscaper for wealthy families in the area and completed his studies at WA in the summer of 1947, shortly after his 17th birthday. Bob continued his academic pursuits at Bethel College (MN), University of Minnesota, and University of California, Berkeley. In 1961, he earned his Ph.D. from the University of London (SOAS). Dr. Frykenberg's scholarly writings have resulted in his recognition as distinguished American historian of India.



Our own Gieser family is the largest family of ophthalmologists in America! Pictured here are Drs. Paul, Jon, David '67, Richard '55, Ruth (Williams) and Stephen '78 Gieser. All but Paul practice at the Wheaton Eye Clinic.



Walter '68 and Marilyn (Alta '68) Pieschke's entire family gathered together in June of 2008. The Pieschkes have six daughters including 9-year-old Sarah and 6-year-old Anna, both adopted from China. (They are the two peeking over Walt's shoulders.) They have also been blessed with eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. They recently moved to the Buffalo, NY area where Walt is VP of Marketing and Sales for a small but growing company. In April, Walt and Marilyn celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.



Gary '81 and Janet Gulley live in Pawley's Island, SC, with their four children (from left to right): Kayla (15), Noah (14) holding

Ayden Jane (18 mos.), and McKenna (8). Gary is happily working as a nurse. Little Ayden will be the focus of many of our prayers over the months following her birth. Praise the Lord for her health!



Inez Marie (Johnson '45) Lauterwasser, 82, died April 16, 2009. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Ted, and their 5 children: Lynn, Beth, Steven, Elaine and Debra. Inez and Ted have eleven grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Inez will be remembered

by her family for her deep faith in the Lord, her unwavering love for them and the generosity and loving-kindness she bestowed on everyone she welcomed into her home.



Jean (Clausen '52) Ludwig went to be with the Lord on March 10, 2009, just a week shy of her 75<sup>th</sup> birthday. She is survived by her husband Paul and their three children: Laura, Barbara and Paul. The Ludwigs raised their family in Cleveland but

then retired to Fort Myers, FL years ago. Jean's love of the Academy was a well-established fact as were the close relationships she maintained with her WA classmates over the years.