

ISSUE 1: JANUARY 2015

Carleton College 1966 50th Reunion Newsletter

A little over 17.5 months from now, our 50th reunion will be held. Under the co-leadership of Joan Hildebrandt Higinbotham and Tom Merritt, some 41 other classmates are participating on three committees (Outreach, Program, and Gift) (see attached Table at end). We have the goal of organizing an outstanding experience where we celebrate our class's Stories, Dreams, and Legacy.

This newsletter will be one of the mechanisms we use to draw your attention to this event and to reconnect you to classmates and the College.

Right: an aerial view of Carleton ~1966 and the logo adopted for our reunion. The newsletter serves to connect these two images.





Center: 4th Myers ('62 -'63): Left to right: Row 1: Arline Roller, Doris Wooley, Elizabeth Rayment, Erica Rosenfeld, Jane Arndt, Charlotte Boucheron; Row 2: Mary Hotz, Wendy Boyden, Jane Pughe, Mary O'Neil, Marjorie Bemis, Mary Green. Left panel: Arline as a child, mother, and initiative collaborator. Right panel: Wendy as child, mother, and professor.

Carleton: Then to Present: The picture above illustrates a number of things about our experiences before, during, and after our years at Carleton. Common to all has been the time at Carleton (and sometimes the embarrassing freshmen year dorm floor picture). Although our backgrounds seemed diverse, they were not nearly as diverse as those of the students currently attending Carleton. Our lives after Carleton similarly took diverse paths, but due to societal, draft, racial, gender, sexual orientation, etc. constraints, paths often were restricted. Only with time have some found the courage or societal support to diversify. Many individuals in our class actually forged some of those paths.

Both individuals shown above continue to make significant contributions as they leave decade 6 and enter 7. Wendy just retired from her role as **Dean of the College of Interdisciplinary Studies at Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan**. Arline has been a board member of **Compassion and Choices of Washington** and participated with former Governor Booth Gardner and others to see the successful passage in November 2008 of a citizens' initiative, I-1000, The Death With Dignity Initiative. She continues as a volunteer case manager.

Carleton Now: Below are shown 5 current Carleton students who participated in the Center for Civic Engagement and who made presentations on November 1, 2014 before members of the class of 1966 reunion committee. Their presentations nicely illustrated one of the very dramatic changes in the College -- there is now a very strong emphasis on hands-on engagement through classes and internships. For example, there are social justice internships (15 participants in 2014), summer internships (78 participants in 68 organizations in 16 countries), and the courses and internships offered through the Center for Community and Civic Engagement. **Winter 2015 courses are here**. What impressed us most was the depth of engagement and the effectiveness of this form of learning in not only making academic work relevant to both the student and the partnering organization, but as it also provided a mechanism for students to socially and institutionally mature. As one example, the person to the left is Vayu M Rekdal '15 and he used cooking to teach science to middle school students (**media coverage is here**).

Five current Carleton students answering questions on November 1, 2014. They had just completed individual project presentations to the '66 Reunion Committee.



Poems from Our Classmates:

Bruce Hanna's Happy 2015 New Year Poem

anew again
anew and old as time
a "new" year —
may we notice
may we feel
renewed —
gifted with new moments
see choice
in the familiar —
harvest the wisdom of our scars...
but where to look for clues
as we write this chapter
of our life story?
very close by —
deeply within the eyes
of our life partners
mirrors there reflect
invitations
to the dance
illuminate
the best choices
for this day
and those
that will follow
anew again

Stories From Our Classmates: After Bonnie McNaughton Wheaton graduated from Carleton and had become one of the College's trustees, she learned of the connection between the Frank Shigemura room in Willis, President Nason, and our class. Bonnie writes:

"During the four years I spent at Carleton, I went into Willis Hall almost every day. If I ever noticed a brass door plaque that said "Frank Shigemura Room", I never thought to ask who Frank was.

I recently learned why Carleton has a room honoring Frank Shigemura.

On the day of Pearl Harbor, Masao (Frank) Shigemura was a student at the University of Washington. He was the only child of Japanese parents, although he and his mother were both born in the United States. His only sibling had died in 1931. Along with his parents, Frank was "relocated" to an internment camp in Minidoka, Idaho, in one of the darkest chapters of American history. He was forced to suspend his college education.

At the same time, John W. Nason, a Quaker, was president of Swarthmore College and active in the American Friends Service Committee. Nason, who became president of Carleton as the Class of '66 was matriculating in 1962, was chair of the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, which helped over 4,000 Japanese American students leave the internment camps and resume their studies at colleges and universities away from both coasts. Frank Shigemura was one of eight such students who came to Carleton to continue their education.

Immediately after arriving at Carleton, Frank began his efforts to join the military. He was initially rejected because of his Japanese ancestry. Dean of the College Lindsay Blayney undertook a letter-writing campaign on his behalf, and Frank was ultimately allowed to enlist in the Army.

Frank Shigemura was one of 200 Japanese American soldiers in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team who died in October 1944. They were involved in the controversial rescue of the Lost Battalion in France. The 442nd was the most highly decorated unit of its size in

World War II.

After the war, Carleton President Laurence Gould sent Frank's parents, Kaye and Takejuro Shigemura, a copy of the Gold Star book commemorating the Carleton students who died in World War II. Mrs. Shigemura sent President Gould a letter expressing how deeply honored she and her husband were by the book. She enclosed "a small contribution" to the college. Thus began a long correspondence between Mrs. Shigemura and members of the Carleton administration. With every letter, Mrs. Shigemura enclosed "a small contribution". Eventually the room on 2nd Willis was named in Frank's honor and a scholarship was established in his name.

There are several morals to be drawn from the story of Frank Shigemura, but there are some lessons which are not obvious.

The first lesson is one of sacrifice. After several years of correspondence, the Carleton administration learned that that Mr. Shigemura was a porter at Union Station in Seattle, and the couple lived in poverty. Nonetheless, Mrs. Shigemura continued to enclose in each letter "a small contribution" in Frank's memory, which the pair could ill afford. They made continual personal sacrifices to support the institution that had given Frank a second chance for an education and honored his memory after his death.

The second lesson is one of opportunity. I would not have known about Frank Shigemura or his remarkable story if I had not attended Reunion Weekend in 2011. Professor Fred Hagstrom gave a talk about "Deeply Honored", the art book he created to tell the story of the Shigemuras. Sensitively written and beautifully illustrated, Prof. Hagstrom's book demonstrates the best of Carleton scholarship and creativity.

The third lesson is one of understanding. The Carleton Class of '66 had a relationship with President John W. Nason which was aptly described as "fraught". We remember him as being somewhat stiff and unapproachable during turbulent times, but his leadership of the Student Relocation Council shows a caring and compassionate side that deserves our admiration.

The fourth lesson is one of engagement. The Carleton Class of '66

was born the year Frank Shigemura, Carleton '45, was killed. I hope we will all make plans to attend our 50th reunion in June 2016 so that we can renew, remember and rejoice together, and perhaps even gather on 2nd Willis to honor Frank Shigemura."

The "Deeply Honored" presentation by Professor Fred Hagstrom, Rae Schupack Nathan Professor of Art, can be [found here](#):

Following the moving story above, it seems appropriate to end on a lighter note where freshmen and sophomores demonstrate that parental emphasis on sharing was wasted.



Sophomores Pete Schulz, Joe DuBray, and Richard Kooris demonstrate (complete the blank as you see fit!).

Information about the Class of 1966 and 50th Reunion

1. **Class web site:** <https://apps.carleton.edu/alumni/classes/1966/>.

This web site was developed by Bruce Hanna & the College's web team.

2. Certain parts of the web site (e.g., Stories), require you to log-on. Your user ID is your current last name up to seven letters, then your first initial, followed by an underline bar, and then 1966. For example, if your name is Kam Chancellor, your user ID would be Chancelk_1966. If you do not have or do not remember your password, Mary Niebur (mniebur@carleton.edu) can help you.

3. Soon there will be a class-only facebook page.

Table below gives members of the Reunion Committee, their function, and their email address.

Name	Committee	email
Marcy McGarraugh Andberg	Survey	mandbergassoc@comcast.net
Rosemary Lane Anderson	Outreach	rosealyce@aol.com
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Pearl Lam Bergad	Outreach	pbergad@gmail.com
Rob Bingham	Gift	magnestar@mac.com
Linda Nelson Blaisdell	Outreach	lindarblaisdell@gmail.com
Dorothy Broom (Trustee)	Program	dorothy.broom@gmail.com
Eric Carlson	Gift	mimianderic@hotmail.com
Mimi Garbisch Carlson	Program	mimianderic@hotmail.com
Lawrie Cherniack	Program	cherns@mts.net
Bill Craig	Program	wmpcraig@aol.com
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Paul Grawe	Outreach	pgrawe@hbc.com
Bruce Hanna	Outreach	bphanna@cox.net
Joan Hildebrandt Higinbotham	Overall	joan@higinbotham.com
Arline Roller Hinckley	Program	arlinehinckley@yahoo.com
Tom Hinckley	Outreach	hinckley@uw.edu

Table continued

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Newsletter is produced by Paul Grawe (pgrawe@hbc.com), Tom Hinckley (hinckley@uw.edu) and Jon Watterson (joncwatterson@gmail.com). We strive to be accurate, but age and distractions will likely result in mistakes (hopefully, they are merely humorous or at least entertaining). Our apologies.

We encourage you to submit stories (past, present or future dreams), poems, drawings, photographs. We will do our best to not misrepresent you!

Photograph from Our Classmates: Subalpine larch (*Larix lyallii*) above Rainy Pass, Washington (T. Hinckley). This high elevation species occurs as a disjunct population in the Northern Cascades. Some trees reach ages over 1900 years (Alberta).

