What is happening? Do you know?

“I seem to recall that as a class we planted a tree. And isn’t that Larry Gould watching us? So it must have been something legitimate. If I had to put money on it, I would say that I am either catching or throwing a squirrel’s tail.”

—Mike Carpenter
Memories of Willis

Bob Landorf: “Vern Vig and Dean Jones roomed on ground Davis and came back one day to find that some of us had moved their furniture, bed, desk, and mess to the Willis entryway.”

Andrea Grove Iseminger: “After Lit Crit class, we’d have a lemonade in the snack bar while we read aloud to each other the comments Owen Jenkins had made on our papers.”

Doug Ross: “I have good and bad memories of Willis. A favorite activity for me was grazing in the bookstore for non-required books. Anita still has trouble keeping me out of bookstores. The Lounge was where I learned to play bridge. Bad memories? The basement was where I learned to smoke. Or, to be precise, where I acquired the tools of the trade. As we checked our mail before lunch, cigarette companies had their representatives standing at the bottom of the stairs handing out little four-packs.”

Lois Dodge Stewart: “I remember going through the mail for The Carletonian and furtively throwing away the copy of The Daily Worker that arrived (unsolicited) every day from the American Communist Party, red penciling stacks of stories in wire baskets for Ann Fagan to retype, conferring with Jerry Meltzer on which photos we’d use for that week’s newspaper, leaving males in solitary possession of all of Willis Hall as we females dashed downstairs and across campus before the witching hour of 10 p.m. found us locked out of Evans and hauled up in front of Women’s Court.”

John Wilder: “Dr. Samuel Strong’s favorite place to steal women’s shoes was in Willis. His fetish was discovered and he was asked to leave. What many didn’t know is that Dean Jones was asked to hide in a closet in Willis to catch Dr. Strong in the act, and he found that Dr. Strong stole all kinds of clothing, not just shoes.”

Ejner Jensen: “The history of Willis is bound to strike a chord with most of our classmates. When I read it, I could hear Sue Stocker calling for a fourth for bridge and see again the disconsolate faces of the students in Professor Van Dyke’s biology class as they pulled their grades from their mailboxes.”

Chris Stocker: “Most memorable by far are the happy if sometimes frantic hours I spent upstairs in Willis behind the mike in the KARL studios. There I served a stint as reader of the 5:45 p.m. news. My ‘copy’ came straight off the teletype and my audience was essentially imaginary as most of whatever potential listeners I might have had already vacated their rooms to line up for dinner. I also hosted a recorded jazz program in the evening. I selected as the opening theme an original instrumental by Stan Kenton, perhaps a questionable choice that may well have driven off more listeners than it attracted. No matter. Radio had shaped my early years, its personalities were my idols and in Willis in this modest way, with the kind indulgence of my KARL superiors, I was able to live out a deeply rooted fantasy.”

WHO’S COMING?
Visit our Web site: www.go.carleton.edu/1959

Our Voice ’59
50th Reunion: June 18–21, 2009
About the Reunion

Lots of options; no requirements; plenty of opportunities to socialize and get reacquinted with classmates, faculty, and friends, including special receptions with President Oden and emeriti faculty—and all FREE (except the nominal registration fee and your transportation). Early arrivals may wish to ease into reunion by participating in small group Engage and Reflect discussions beginning Thursday noon. Student-run campus transport will be available throughout the reunion.

Whether your preferences lean toward the arts (Creative Arts exhibit, classical piano recital, show tunes); the College Oral History project (sign up in Watson); faculty lectures (China and the Far East, Egypt and the Middle East, science and religion); classmate-led discussions (Roads Less Traveled: History, Memory, and Commemoration; Looking Ahead: Journeying Well); athletics (C Club luncheon, alumni golf tournament); books, travel, and a class service project (continental breakfast table talks in Watson); live jazz, barbecue, and gourmet class banquets; hiking the Arb, touring the campus, exercising in the new rec facility, revisiting downtown Northfield, or just hanging out in Watson or Sayles Hill—all will be available in June! There will also be a class memorial service in the lovely Japanese garden behind Watson Sunday morning prior to our departure. Please consult the recent mailing and reunion registration packet or visit the class Web site (go.carleton.edu/1959) for more details.

You will not want to miss this momentous reunion! You will be missed if you are not there!

Memories of Skinner

Sally Soper Gray: “The women were required to wear stockings, dress shoes, and hats to Vespers in the chapel. I once wore pajamas under my coat (plus all those required items) and felt very daring. My roommate Andrea took a picture to prove I had done it.”

Carol Jo Johnson Kent: “A pipe organ in an empty, beautiful space and me. For several hours every week this was the joy that was mine.

Steve Sandels: “Of course, chapel attendance was mandatory. I used to attend with my roommates and three or four other friends. Often the chaplain, David Maitland, would say a prayer while all in attendance bowed their heads. The prayers often contained the word “flesh” which he pronounced “flessshhh”, drawing out the “sh” sound. We would often whisper that pronunciation along with him; and he was known to us as “Flessshhh Maitland”

Don Klinefelter: “One of my best memories of Skinner Chapel was the Dave Brubeck Quartet concert. Brubeck was near the peak of his powers and it was the first public appearance of Joe Morello. That early quartet—Morello, Eugene Wright, Paul Desmond, and Brubeck—remains the best in my memory.

Clyde Smith: “I was in charge of the compulsory attendance slips for Vespers. One day a Jewish student implored me to release him from attending, arguing that the Christian services were just too much for him to stomach. I said that he could come to my room 15 minutes before the service and that he could sign his slip, thereby avoiding having to attend. The word got out and I was deluged by other Jewish students. I drew the line at five and said that they had to decide among themselves who would be released on a given Sunday. Casey Jarchow got wind of this, and started attending Vespers, surveying those in attendance, and reviewing the signed slips stored in his office. On one occasion he appeared at my room minutes before a service; fortunately no pre-signers were there. We played this game for some months but Casey failed to ever catch any of us.”

Martha Calhoun Wintner: “I remember lining up in the Chapel basement before proceeding up into the choir, and then looking down from the choir pews over the sea of assorted hats at Vespers.”

Guess Who?

Mystery Persons
Last Issue
Enid Woodward
Hans Nelson
1. Both she and her daughter have law degrees from Harvard.
2. Was Aquatic Director for the St. Paul Catholic Youth Organization.
3. Avoided Army Reserve meetings by getting the University of Delaware Poet in Residence drunk enough to sign a letter saying that the two of them were needed on meeting nights to look for local poets.
4. Raised and ran dogsled teams.
5. Worked for the CIA for 31 years.
6. Raises peahens and one magnificent peacock that serves as a guard dog.
7. Has led group trips to Provence focused on “Redeeming the Dark Feminine.”
8. Brought art therapy to a halfway home for people recovering from mental illness in Bangalore, India.
9. His aunt also is his sister and his mother.
10. Owned a prize bull named “Tough Stuff.”
11. Plays in a gamelan, a Balinese instrumental ensemble.
12. Leads mushroom walks and makes mushroom cookies.
13. Was a spear-carrier in a Metropolitan Opera production of Il Trovatore.
14. Worked in a lab in Washington, D.C., testing the edible gifts that the President of the United States received.
15. Was so shy that his 3rd grade teacher told his mother that she was worried about his future since he was extremely introverted.