

Issue 20: April 2018

Carleton College 1966

Post 50th Reunion

Newsletter

RATIONALE FOR FURTHER READING.

1. Vintage cars and penguins, what's the thread?
2. Update on Carleton College's effort to build a geothermal heating and cooling system.
3. Update on Carleton College's Integrated Science Facility
4. Obituaries for Martha Hulings Kaemmer, Pat Lamb, Susanna Lesan, Libby Muir, Jack Thurnblad, and Alan Woolman
5. Happiness is snow and a friendly dog.



Recent News

Unfortunately, much of the recent news from our class and from the campus has been about the deaths of Martha Hulings Kaemmer '66 , Pat Lamb, Susanna Lesan '66, Libby Muir, Jack Thurnblad '49, and Alan Woolman '66. What information I have on these individuals is found later under individual's name.

Some of us have been honored to follow the recent trips of Tom and Sharon Tornos Merritt to Cuba and the Falklands/Anarctica (Figure below).



Figure. Tom and Sharon enjoy a vintage car in Havana.

Campus Sustainability Efforts

Construction of the complex of geothermal wells to support a heat pump system, with backup boiler, for heating and cooling buildings on campus began in June 2017. The geothermal drilling began in mid-June 2017, with 95 horizontal wells located under Bell Field and 77 vertical wells under what is referred to as the Mini Bald Spot, located on the east side of campus by the Language and Dining Center and Myers Hall. For summer 2018, 133 more vertical wells will be drilled in the Bald Spot, next to Skinner Memorial Chapel in the center of campus. Each vertical well is 520-feet deep, equivalent to the height of three Carleton smoke stacks. The project as a whole will install over sixty miles of piping including the new geothermal wells and replacement of campus-wide heating distribution piping.

The geothermal wells will tie into the new east energy station, to be constructed as a sub-basement in Carleton's new science complex. Mudd Hall and the linkage between Mudd and Olin Halls have been removed. Excavation for the new building is complete and most of the foundation work

To see the progress made so far in construction, see the Figure on the next page. You can also go to the construction web cam (<http://137.22.29.15/mjpg/video.mjpg>; it was snowing when I looked at it on April 8, 2018). The web site for the new Integrated Science Facility is here: <https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/facilities/projects/science/>.

If you want to read more campus progress on energy, here is the goto website:

- <https://apps.carleton.edu/sustainability/>



Figure. Demolition of Mudd Hall, excavation, and then construction of the new Integrated Science Facility.

Martha Huling Kaemmer's Obituary, March 29, 2018

Martha's commitment to Carleton, support of Carleton, and connections to Carleton are extraordinary. Alumni survivors include: Ms. Elizabeth K. Kaemmer '11 (Niece), Arthur W. Kaemmer, M.D.

'65 P95 W66 (Spouse), Ms. Julia L. Kaemmer '95 (Child), Mr. D. Craig Kaemmer '73 P11 (Sibling-in-law), Ms. Katherine R. Hayes '92 (Niece), Ms. Sarah Jane Andersen '77 (Cousin), Mary H. Rice '62 P92 (Sibling).



Martha was a St. Paul businesswoman and philanthropist, married to Dr. Art Kaemmer, '65 MD. Martha and Art were founders and supporters of the Kinnickinnic River Land Trust. From the Trust's web site: "Martha and Art's financial support, through their HRK Foundation, and generous personal support have continued ever since. Many of our members will fondly remember Martha from events like our 'Corks, Cuisine, and Conservation'. Martha was a kind, genuinely unassuming, and generous spirit—eager to know what we were doing, and hear about our challenges and our successes. It seemed to me that Martha focused her attention and care outward, towards others—the very definition of a

'generous spirit'."

Pat Lamb's Obituary, January 28, 2018

The Carleton College community lost a true pioneer in women's athletics with the passing of Pat Lamb, age 83, after a long battle with cancer.

Lamb spent her life in service to Carleton and its students. She is recognized as an early champion



Figure. Pat Lamb with Carleton softball coach, Amy Erickson; spring 2017.

for women's physical education and was an influential leader in the development of increased sport opportunities for women, not only at Carleton, but also at the state, regional, and national levels. Lamb came to Carleton in 1962 as a physical education instructor, and became Carleton's first athletic director for women in 1970, a position she held for 15 years. During that time, she supervised the development of 12 varsity athletic programs, coaching many of them herself. Because of her advocacy, and that of her life partner Ele Hansen, Carleton became an early model for providing wide-ranging physical education instruction, classes, and resources for women. But that advocacy wasn't always a smooth path and occasionally required tactics like Lamb threatening to begin a hunger strike on the tennis courts in the basement of Cowling.

Lamb's influence on the lives of all those around her was profound. She was a deeply

caring person, a gifted teacher, and an inspiring role model for generations of students and colleagues. Coaching was to her a vehicle to teach values and help young women grow into themselves. She was sought out by many as a counselor, mentor, and friend.

"It was OK to be a gymnast, because it's very feminine...it was OK to be a figure skater, it was kind of OK to be a diver or a swimmer, because you just kind of got in there -- it was very sterile, there was no show of aggression. What was very difficult to have accepted by society, by parents, by brothers, by boyfriends...were the sports in which women looked like they were exerting or looked kind of aggressive, because that wasn't thought to be 'feminine'."

-- Pat Lamb (during an interview on Sept. 12, 1994)

Lamb's enthusiasm, presence, and love of sport and teaching were infectious and made lasting impressions on her student-athletes. She served in many leadership positions in state and national organizations, including the U.S. Tennis Association, the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women, the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport, and the NCAA. Her many honors include being named the NCAA Division III Tennis Coach of the Year, induction into the Minnesota Tennis Hall of Fame, and receiving the University of Minnesota's Eloise M. Jaeger Physical Education Award.

Lamb retired from Carleton in 1994 as Professor Emerita of physical education, athletics and recreation (PEAR). She was inducted into the 'C' Club Hall of Fame in 1993 and received the college's Exceptional Service Award during Reunion in 2016. After retirement, Lamb continued to support women's athletics in myriad ways, including the Pat Lamb award, which is given annually to two outstanding Carleton senior female athletes and scholars.

Two years ago, Lamb wrote that her obituary should be simple. She said, "Perhaps you'll be able to write something like this. 'She lived fully, she tried hard, she loved with all her heart, and she died gracefully having placed herself totally in the hands of God.'"

Susanna Lesan's Obituary, January 22, 2018

From the Greenwich Time: "Susanna Lesan, 73, passed away following a long illness. She was born June 11, 1944 in Dallas, Texas to Eloise Eubank Lesan and David Lesan. The family moved to Cos Cob in the early 50's as her father was a writer of radio and television daytime dramas and needed to be close to NYC. Susanna attended and was a 1962 graduate of Greenwich Academy. She then pursued her lifelong love of books and literature at Carleton College in Minnesota, graduating in 1966. This led her to a career in publishing which she completed as Senior Development Editor for Pearson Prentice Hall, a college textbook publisher. Her final project before retirement was the textbook Psychology, used in the University of California system. The text she developed included a section on Alzheimer's Disease, the illness she lived with in the final decade of her life. During its early stages, Susanna faced squarely its inevitable progression with courage and with a warmth and humor that she kept through her very last days. This was evident when she participated with 'To Whom I May Concern', an interactive theatre program designed for recently diagnosed dementia patients to share their stories and experiences.

Susanna had a strong, practical Christian faith. She was a member of Christ Church, Greenwich, and served in several capacities, ranging from the Stephen Ministry to driving an elderly friend to weekly services. Her natural curiosity and love of learning meant that a discussion of theology or faith with her would be challenging and thought-provoking. She lived in New York City for many years and

had a strong interest in opera (Wagner's Ring Cycle was a favorite), theater, classical music, foreign films and The Beatles. She had no need for, and rarely used, a television while living in Manhattan. She cultivated lifelong friendships and could count close relationships that were decades-long and treasured by those involved. Susanna was also an animal lover and, though growing up with dogs, upon retiring adopted two cats whom she adored. Susanna is survived by her sister, Amanda Lesan, of Berkeley, California. She has left behind scores of people who knew her as a constant and faithful friend who could be counted on to comfort, challenge, support and walk with them through their most difficult times. She left the world better than she found it and will be remembered with her ready smile and fulsome laugh."

Libby Muir's Obituary, December 7, 2017

Elizabeth 'Libby' Muir 1929–2017 Grand Rapids—"Libby" Muir (Elizabeth Ann Townsend Muir) passed away peacefully in Grand Rapids, MN on Dec. 7, 2017, 15 days after her 88th birthday. She had recently broken her femur, and while her leg healed well, her spirit did not. She was surrounded during her last days by various of her four children and their spouses, her seven grandchildren, her four great grandchildren, and, of course, her faithful cat companion, Ralph.

Libby was born in Lansdowne, PA, to Ralph and Ruby Townsend, whose names she bestowed on two of her beloved cats. She had one brother, Richard Townsend, who preceded her in death. She attended and graduated from Allegheny College in Meadville, PA. At Allegheny, she was Concertmistress of the Allegheny Sinfonietta, majored in Biology, and met her future husband, William H. Muir ("Bill"). She recalled being attracted to this "odd" fellow who studied all hours of the day and night in the Biology building, where he also listened to classical music and had a cat. After graduation, she worked for a year at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. Libby and Bill married in June of 1952, and moved to Madison, WI, where he was a PhD student in the Department of Plant Pathology at UW. She worked as a Research Assistant in the same department. Two of their daughters, Patricia Muir (husband Bruce McCune) and Cynthia Muir Kuhns (husband Mick Kuhns), were born in Madison. The family moved to Northfield, MN in 1957, when Bill accepted a faculty position in the Biology Department at Carleton College. Two more children, Margaret Muir Marshall (husband Bill Marshall) and William Ralph Muir (husband Bob Wright) were born in short succession after their arrival in Northfield. Libby enjoyed being a homemaker, and she and her family maintained a large vegetable garden for many years, canning immense quantities of fruits and vegetables. She was active in the Daughters of the American Revolution and in local churches. She and her family also enjoyed camping in central and northern MN.

Her husband, Bill, became totally blind by 1968. Her life then changed drastically, as she became what she referred to as "a seeing eye wife." She worked with him around the clock to enable him to keep teaching at Carleton, helping him to do all that was required of a faculty member. She accepted this change with courage and grace, as did he. Shortly before Bill became totally blind, they bought property on a lake in Itasca County, and that property and the cabin they built and re-built there, using only hand tools, has been a primary gathering place for their family ever since. They went to the cabin year round, often snowshoeing in the last mile, often in the dark, Libby leading Bill. They and their children lived at that cabin during an entire fall and winter, while Bill was on sabbatical. Life there was hard – no electricity or running water, and wood for heat– but Libby loved the time there.

In 1971, they began teaching Botany at the Associated College of the Midwest's wilderness field station on Basswood Lake, and they, with their children, spent that and several following summers there. She and Bill, with an able assistant (George "Skip" Wittler for most of the years), led students on canoe trips of between 5 and 10 days in the BWCAW and Quetico, usually three trips per summer.



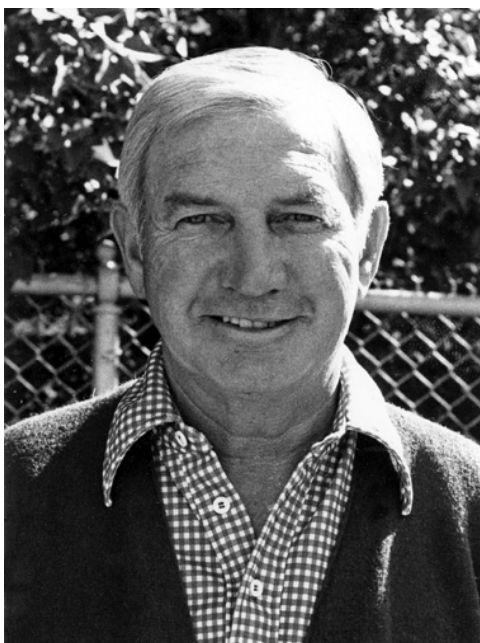
Figure. Bill and Libby Muir and family at their cabin in Northern Minnesota (photograph ~1976).

They paddled thousands of miles and crossed hundreds of portages, with her leading him across the rocky trails.

Bill died unexpectedly in 1985, and Libby, who had basically given her life to help him, was suddenly on her own. She rose to that occasion as well. She became active in various volunteer efforts, including leading Bible study at the men's penitentiary in Fari-

bault, MN and serving as a volunteer reader for the MN Radio Talking Book, a service for the visually impaired, for many years. She received a Rice County Outstanding Senior Citizen of the Year award in 2003. She continued to spend time at their cabin and traveled often to visit her children. She accepted with grace the changes that came with age – she sold her home of 50 years in Northfield and moved to Grand Rapids, MN, where her daughter, Peggy, and family live. Her new home in Grand Rapids wasn't ready by the time she sold her Northfield home, so she lived for two months alone in the autumn at her cabin. She voluntarily gave up driving, and moved from her new Grand Rapids home to an assisted living facility there, again graciously recognizing her increasing limitations. During recent years, Libby could barely hear, could no longer see to read, and could no longer walk. Despite these limitations, she never complained, and always told her children how good a life she had. She was cared for with great tenderness by the staff at Majestic Pines, the assisted living facility where she lived in Grand Rapids. Libby quietly modeled love of nature, family and God; courage; grace; kindness; generosity; and strength of character. Her children hope that they will follow her amazing example, and she will be missed greatly.

Jack Thurnblad's Obituary, February 12, 2018



Jack Thurnblad '49 died at the age of 96. Jack came back to Carleton in 1960 as the Men's Basketball Coach and Assistant Professor of Physical Education for Men. In 1980, he became the Athletic Director (Men's Department) and retired as the Emeritus Professor of Physical Education for Men in 1984. In between, he also coached golf, baseball, and football. After his retirement, he continued to coach basketball and golf until 1989. In 2008, Carleton's basketball court was dedicated in honor of Jack, and the scoreboard reads "In honor of Coach Jack and Jinny Thurnblad."

Jack continued to be a strong supporter of Carleton teams, including attending this past Saturday's basketball game. As Guy Kalland wrote, "Coach Jack was an ambassador for Carleton and for the game

of basketball. We will miss his presence at our games, the post-game chats, his strong handshake, and especially his smile after our victories. The passion he had for the game, but more importantly for his players even after they left Carleton, is an example all coaches should try to emulate. We're proud to carry on his legacy."

In addition to being a great coach, Jack was a good man to work with and for, say his colleagues. He was warm, friendly, fair, always helpful, and tireless. And when he couldn't play the more physical sports, he turned to other games: the cribbage games at his retirement home and the black jack tables of regional casinos will be much less competitive without him."

Alan Woolman's Obituary, November 8, 2017

Alan was a retired attorney living in San Francisco. While at Carleton, he was a philosophy major.

State of the World's Climate

Enough bad news



Figure. Chipper greets Arline Roller and Tom Hinckley after some skiing.