

Carleton College 1966 50th Reunion Newsletter

RATIONALE FOR FURTHER READING.

1. Classmate, Martha Hulings Kaemmer, has offered a \$100,000 challenge to the Class of 1966.
2. Climb Ev'ry Mountain: Learn the secrets (and joys) of staying fit by combining mountain summits and seeing the United States.
3. Learn about 'Paper Airplanes Tutoring', a service provided to Syrian refugee school-aged children by a recent graduate.
4. Pathways to local and global awareness: then versus now (the evolution of higher education).
5. What is peace? The perspective of a second grader is provided.
6. A recent decision in California may impact some or all of us.
7. Celebrate autumn in the west and in the east (images).



Content

1. Every new member of the Heywood Society (literally takes as little as a few dollars to join, although more is very much appreciated) from the Class of 1966 will result in an additional current cash gift to Carleton of \$5066.00. Think about it!
2. Karen Eckermann Laatsch provides an interesting path to combining tourism with healthy exercise.
3. For Bailey Ulbricht (Carleton 2015), an overseas experience and an associated senior project became a virtual English language tutor service for Syrian Refugees.
4. The path of experiential learning and local-to-global awareness, contrasting experiences from 1966 to 2015.
5. Fall colors at their best in the Cascades and the Great Balsam Mountains of North Carolina.

Carleton: Now The Heywood Membership Challenge

Exciting Reunion Flash from Tom Merritt and Joan Hildebrandt Higinbotham!

What: Classmate, Martha Hulings Kaemmer, has generously offered a \$100,000 challenge fund to help bolster support for Carleton students through planned gifts.

“Art and I are grateful for our Carleton experiences and we believe in a Carleton education. We also strongly believe that one should give back. When it was time to think about our 50th reunion gifts we chose to name Carleton in our will. We hope our matching challenge will inspire classmates to join us, by joining the Heywood Society, and help further a Carleton education for generations to come.”

The Challenge: Join the Heywood Society before December 31st and help increase support for Carleton students by \$100,000! For each new Heywood member, a cash gift of \$5,066 will be made to the class 50th reunion gift. Between now and the end of the year, gifts from new Heywood members will be matched by Martha’s challenge fund until the \$100,000 is reached.

The Process:

The Heywood Society is open to everyone and it is easy to join:

- Name Carleton as a beneficiary of a will or living trust
- Name Carleton as a beneficiary of a retirement account, IRA, donor advised fund or life insurance policy
- Fund a gift that provides a stream of income for your lifetime, with the remainder going to Carleton (Charitable Gift Annuity or Charitable Remainder Unitrust)

The Carleton 50th Reunion staff can help you as you consider the options. Call Jennifer Foth at 507-222-4276 to get started. These gifts

can take time so call soon and help us reach 66 Heywood members and meet the '66 Heywood Challenge! Currently, there are 47 members.



Remember to check out our [50th Reunion Web Page](#) for the latest photographs, stories, and news.

Reunion Information

There are now 57 published stories and the three most recent come from Sam O’Neil, Mary Duhamel Kramer, and Marvin Pollock. 112 classmates now plan on attending (up 3). **Who was saved by Bill’s pizza and who was saved by western and eastern medicine?**

Climb Ev'ry Mountain

Context

The 50th anniversary of the movie 'The Sound of Music' was celebrated this year. It seems fitting to note that members of our class may also be driven by the spirit associated with the song 'Climb Ev'ry Mountain.' What follows is one such story. This story is provided by Karen Eckerman Laatsch and it involves a unique combination of using hiking as a form of exercise as well as a way of seeing the country. She and her spouse, Jim, have in both Colorado and the rest of the United States used this approach. It is important to note that they live in Wisconsin, a state whose highest peak is Timms Hill at 1951 feet or 595 m. Pictured below is Avalanche Lake, Colorado (10,695 ft)—two 14,000+ peaks are close by, Capitol (#29) and Snowmass Mountain (#31).

Story by Karen Eckerman Laatsch

Colorado Mountains: We've been hiking mountains in Colorado for about thirty years. We took our family there several times for summer vacations and usually hiked one or two mountains each trip. For the last twenty years we have rarely missed spending an August or September week in the Colorado Mountains. In the late 1990s, when our youngest son was in the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, we became more serious about hiking the 14,000+ foot peaks (14'ers) and



would try to hike three or four each time we came to Colorado for parent's weekend. In 2002 we made two trips to Colorado and hiked ten peaks that year.

There are 54 of these 14'ers. My husband, Jim has reached the summit of 53 of them. I've hiked to the top of thirteen of them—most of those in the last five years. In the past, my goal was to hike above tree line (about 12,000 feet). Then I found if I went at my own pace, I could get to the summit too. These mountain hikes usually start at 10,000 feet so you need to go up 4,000 feet or more to the summit and then back down, which is harder on the knees. The round trip distance averages seven miles.

People wonder why anyone would want to work so hard (eight or more hours round trip) to get to the top of a 14'er but I do it for the fantastic feeling I have when I reach the top and look out over the surrounding landscape. I feel like I am on top of the world—and in a way I am. We also meet many interesting people on the trails from all over the U.S.



Picture: Two common flowers often seen in the subalpine meadows of Colorado, often along the path to some summit: columbine and Indian paintbrush.

and the world.

State Highpoints: Our interest in U.S. State Highpoints began after I retired in 1998. We began to drive to our vacation location instead of flying and realized that we were driving through many states and that they had highpoints noted in our map book. Soon the highpoint “bug” had bitten; we joined the Highpointers Club and set our goal of hiking the highpoint in each state. This was a much different project than our efforts in the mountains of Colorado because many highpoints are very easy—once you locate them. You drive to a park or a marker along the street, get out, take a photo and go on to the next one. Of course, not all are so simple! Until now, I have reached the top of 44 state highpoints.

Two state high-points stand out for me and I am proud that I was able to get to the top of each of them. The first is Mt. Whitney in California which we hiked July 25 and 26, 2005. At 14,505 feet (or 4,421 m), it is the highest point in the lower 48 states. The round trip is 21 miles with an elevation gain of 6,800 feet. We hiked in 6 miles (carrying our gear and required “bear barrel”), camped at 12,000 feet, then hiked to the top and all the way back out to the trailhead the second day. Eating our lunch on top of Mt. Whitney was a fantastic experience and worth all the effort to get there. We looked down on glacial lakes and surrounding mountain tops on a perfect summer day. It is a memory I cherish.

The second memorable highpoint is Mt. Katahdin (5,270 feet or 1,606 m) in Maine which we did on September 18, 2006. (Native Abenaki Indians call it Ktaadn—“Greatest Mountain.”) The five-mile route to the top is the end of the Appalachian Trail and gains 4,195 feet in elevation. It was my most difficult hike because we had to climb over huge boulders and use hand holds along the way. My notes say we spent two hours going up the rock field and three hours coming down. At times it seemed the entire trail was over boulders! Our weather at the top was sunny and warm but windy so we didn’t stay long but I sure felt like I had accomplished something when we completed our 12-hour hike!



Picture. Karen Eckerman Laatsch and her spouse, Jim, are seen after the end of the September 19th Breckenridge, Colorado, half- (Karen) and full-marathon (Jim). Karen emphasizes that they walk their respective half- and full-marathons and use these events, particularly in scenic or unique locations, as another way of visiting the different states of the Union.

Carleton Now — The Case of Bailey Ulbricht '15

Tom Merritt discovered this news item in the October 17, 2015 issue of the *Severna Park Voice*, “Paper Airplanes Tutoring takes flight to Syria and Beyond.” Before we get into the real inspiring story behind this interesting title, I must confess I had no idea where Severna Park was (I grew up in south central Pennsylvania and in Baltimore, Maryland) nor how Tom found this article. This article is about a recent Carleton graduate, a story that reinforces the value of one of the new directions that the College has embarked upon based partly on an intellectual and financial stimulus provided by Eric Carlson and Mimi Garbisch Carlson.

The article begins by painting a contrast between the peaceful, green neighborhood, in which the family of the Carleton graduate live, and the war-torn zone between Turkey and Syria where the Carleton graduate has been living and aiding Syrian refugees. The story is about

Bailey Ulbricht, a 22-year-old graduate in international relations from Carleton College (Class of 2015).

Bailey's relationship with this refugee camp in Turkey began during the summer of 2013 when she worked for 8 weeks with Syrian refugee children at an education center in a town 1 km from the border with Syria. She soon realized that there was an extraordinary need for assisting these displaced Syrian school children and, as a result of this need, she formed 'Paper Airplanes Tutoring,' a cyberspace (via Skype, etc.) English-tutoring service, founded on a shoestring and with real-time assistance from fellow students at Carleton. Currently, 'Paper Airplanes Tutoring' has partnered with Students Organized for Syria and uses tutors from 20 U.S. colleges as well as from other universities around the world. As of the writing of the piece in the *Severna Park Voice*, 60 Syrian students had just begun receiving tutoring.

Bailey returned during the 2014 December break to complete work on her senior thesis. She was then awarded a Davis Peace Prize Scholarship that enabled her to return, to continue her work, and to use these funds to pay the required entrance fee for 15 of the refugee students for the TOEFL examination (a required test for all foreigners wishing to do undergraduate or graduate work in the U.S.). She has just received a Fulbright that will allow her to stay an additional 9 months in Turkey.



Picture to the left shows Bailey tutoring Syrian children at the refugee camp in southeastern Turkey.

If interested in reading the referenced article and learning more

about Bailey and her parents, please go to this web site:

<http://www.severnaparkvoice.com/community/paper-airplanes-tutoring-takes-flight-syria-and-beyond>.

This is a wonderful example of how the support of alumni, friends, and parents help provide both the infrastructure within the College and the financial aid to make such local to global opportunities an increasing norm of the educational foundation of each student.

Carleton Then and Now — A Reflection by Tom and Arline Roller Hinckley '66

By the time we had graduated from Carleton, our off-campus experiences, either locally or globally, were restricted to some volunteer time at Hastings Mental Hospital or unauthorized hitch-hiking to sand bag during the floods in Mankato or ski at Buck Hill. We immediately began graduate school and upon graduation sought positions in the fields of our respective academic work. This was a very different path in comparison to either the experiences of our son Matt ('01) had during and after his time at Carleton or those of Bailey Ulbricht ('15). For us, a broader national and global perspective has only come with time and, often upon reflection, with regrets regarding how long it has taken us to take advantages of these experiences—we realize that not all graduates of 1966 followed our very directed and restrictive paths, but likely many did.

It was during a very recent trip to the mountains of North Carolina and then several days in Atlanta that we reflected on these notable different paths. We devoted one day to the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and a second day to the Jimmy Carter Presidential Library and Museum, both in Atlanta. These are two incredibly impressive individuals, but, for us, what was interesting was learning how they acquired a broader exposure to the world. King's exposure to Gandhi's teachings was reinforced when he spent part of 1959 in India. Carter's exposure came much later, mostly when he was President; however,

his mother's 21-month service in India with the Peace Corps in 1966 certainly had a major influence on both his world view and his and his wife's 35-year record of domestic and global service after the end of his Presidency. These two exceptional individuals sought (or it sought them) broader exposure to the world and, similar to Bailey, this exposure greatly influenced their philosophy, ethics, and action.

The most recent online version of *The Chronicle of Higher Education* deals with "What Presidents (of public and private institutions of higher education) Think About Financial Sustainability, Student Outcomes, and the Future of Higher Education." Trends noted in this coverage mirror many of the comments we have heard from both President Poskanzer and the students attending Carleton. With regard to "where colleges should play a role in career development," two results stood out in this article. First, 86% of the presidents felt that experiential learning is and should be an increasingly important feature of college/university curricula and 74% felt that career preparation should be a responsibility that cuts across the college/university. A similar survey in 1962 or 1966 would have likely had very different results—I am not sure that the term 'experiential learning' would have been known much less appreciated. Carleton has similarly evolved. What has been particularly impressive to us has been the extent to which students have access to and have taken advantages of these opportunities.

We have had two experiences at Carleton enabling us to sense the pulse of both Carleton and its students. The first was a four-year period during which our son Matt was a student (1997 - 2001). The second has come as a result of our memberships on two different Reunion Committees. Carleton is not forcing students to have hands-on local or global experiences, but it enables, reinforces, and supports such activities. Whether using cooking as a way of engaging underrepresented students from Northfield and Faribault middle schools with the foundation ideas in physics or chemistry or creating a cyberspace-mechanism to tutor Syrian refugee school children, we have directly or indirectly

witnessed how Carleton students take advantage of local to global experiential learning opportunities offered.



Picture: Students from various schools in Georgia were asked to write about "What is Peace" after their visit to the MLK National Historic Site. This is from a second grader.

Reunion Program Updates

There are three updates: (1) November 15, 2015 Storybook Deadline, (2) Program Committee Deliberations, and (3) End of November publication of the Reunion Issue of the *Carletonian*, capturing the headlines and articles for the period 1962 - 1966.

(1) **Storybook Deadline** (November 15, 2015). You should receive the attached announcement shortly. This will serve as an additional reminder.



STORIES, DREAMS, LEGACY:
50TH REUNION
JUNE 16–19, 2016



Storybook Deadline Fast Approaching!

Hi Classmates,

If you've been reading on our website the stories our classmates have submitted for the Class of '66 50th reunion **storybook**, you can see, some stories are missing—**perhaps one of them is yours.**

Go [here](#) to input your story, if you haven't already. **Now is the time to do it. November 15** is a deadline for the College to collect what we've submitted and publish it. No need to fill a bluebook--concise is preferred.

The reunion planners opted not to ask you to fill in a questionnaire-type format. Instead, as Carls using the "critical and independent thinking" we were told we'd learn, it's assumed you'd prefer to start tabula rasa. If you would like some help to get started, check out the [Class of '66 website storybook page](#) for suggestions. There are links to our [25th reunion book](#) as well as a list of [idea-provoking questions](#).

Now is the time to put pen to paper or finger to keyboard!
Thanks!

(There's even help if you haven't learned how to log in. The College keeps the site restricted for the benefit of our privacy.)



Bonnie McNaughton Wheaton, then and now



Bruce Hanna, then and now



Peggy Day Watterson, then and now



Clay Russell, then and now

CARLETON COLLEGE CLASS OF 1966 REUNION PLANNING COMMITTEE

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(2) Reunion Program Committee Deliberations

The Reunion Program committee has discussed a number of topics for the June 16 - 19, 2016 Reunion. End-of-life choices and options have been one such topic considered. Arline Roller Hinckley, a volunteer client support social worker for End-of-Life Washington, provides a recent update regarding the October 5, 2015 decision in California.

Right-to-Die Laws Expanded:

“After much contemplation, on October 5, 2015 California Governor Jerry Brown, a lifelong Catholic and former Jesuit seminarian, signed the End of Life Options Act, extending the right to choice and control at the time of death to the 38 million residents of his state. The Act will go into effect 90 days after the end of the current special legislative session (no earlier than January 1, 2016) and will sunset after 10 years.

When signing the Act, Governor Brown said that he did not know if he would ever choose to use the law but that it “would be a comfort to be able to consider the options afforded by this bill” and he would not deny this comfort to others. California becomes the fifth U.S. state to extend this right to its residents, joining Oregon (1994 by Initiative), Washington (2008 by Initiative), Montana (2009 by State Supreme Court ruling) and Vermont (2013 through legislation). With the addition of California to these ranks, choice and control at the end of life is the right of over 51 million Americans or just over 16% of our population.

With the exception of Montana, the “Right-to-Die” or “Death with Dignity” laws are very similar. A person wanting to access the law must be an adult resident of the state, have a life expectancy of six months or less, be competent to make the request and must make two oral and one written requests for lethal medication. Most importantly, the person must be able to self-administer the medication by ingestion. There is ample data online about how these laws have functioned in Oregon and Washington. (<https://publichealth.oregon.gov> and www.doh.gov.wa, then search ‘dwda’).”

(3) Reunion Carletonian

Paul Grawe has submitted a draft version of the Reunion *Carletonian*, an issue designed to capture the period between our start as frosh and departure as seniors. The figure below was an early attempt to see what themes emerged. The issue will be published by 12/1/2015.



Celebrate Autumn

Autumn is the time of the year when the day-light period becomes shorter, day-light savings ends, the weather becomes colder, hunting season exists, signs for corn mazes are seen, pumpkins are carved, Saturday afternoon football games are played (unfortunately thanks to television contracts, football begins in early August, ends in February and has almost become a 24/7 ordeal), and winter is not far around the corner.

The display of leaf colors becomes one of several cherished highlights. On the next pages are pictures illustrating such changes in the Wash-

ington State Cascades and in the Great Balsam Mountains, a subrange of the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina.



Picture Above: View from along the Pacific Crest Trail between Grasshopper and Hart's Passes, Washington. Yellow is subalpine larch and red is mountain huckleberry. Green is subalpine fir.

Remember to check out our [50th Reunion Web Page](#) for the latest photographs, stories, and news.

Picture Next Page: View from the top of Black Balsam Knob (6,214 ft) looking NNE towards Mt. Pisgah and Mt. Mitchell (in the distance, covered with cloud). Extensive logging in 1925 and 1942 resulted in the removal of many of the evergreen species. Very hot fires associated with this logging resulted in replacement of the evergreens by a rich diversity of deciduous, hardwood species.

