Dear Center for,

Since relocating back to the Walla Walla Valley four months ago, I’ve been reminded of some childhood memories of growing up in this verdant valley –

- The ever-present “honk, honk, honk” coming from unique formations of geese headed south, even on the coldest of afternoons.
- Sunsets splashed with brilliant hues suspended in the western night sky.
- Applesauce donuts from Rogers Bakery – a Friday night cafeteria tradition.
- The hourly bell tolling from the Administration Building, reminding us of how quickly time moves on a university campus.
- The joy of beautiful, smiling, energetic WWU students that grace our campus.

As an alumnus you also have memories, instances that prick your recollections of experiences from familiar spaces. As our staff plans for Alumni Homecoming 2013, we pull from those thoughts and events that bring us joy from having attended WWU. And we cherish the opportunity to reconnect with classmates, teachers, staff.

We hope you are planning to attend Walla Walla University Alumni Homecoming 2013—this year’s dates are April 25-28. You will be receiving a flyer in the mail soon, and you can find a complete list of this year’s schedule on our website.

P.S. As you make plans for Homecoming Weekend, ask about rooms reserved at a special rate for our alumni. Click here for a list of local hotels/motels.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Southern California Tour: Vespers**
*Feb. 22 | Desert Hot Springs, Calif.*
Join WWU President John McVay and other WWU staff for a Friday evening vespers at 6:45 p.m. at the Desert Hot Springs Seventh-day Adventist Church.

**Southern California Tour: Church Service**
*Feb. 23 | Grand Terrace, Calif.*
Join us for a worship service Sabbath morning at 9:30 and 11:30 at the Azure Hills Seventh-day Adventist Church. WWU President John McVay will be the featured speaker. A potluck and informational meeting will be at 1:00.

**Southern California Tour: Young Alumni Complimentary Dinner**
*Feb. 23 | Redlands, Calif.*
You’re invited to a dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory at 6:30. Seating is limited, so please let us know soon if you’re planning to come by calling 509-527-2631. You can also make a reservation at alumni@wallawalla.edu. Childcare is available. To reserve a spot, call Keanan at 509-200-
1981 Engineering Alumnus Recipient of Boeing Award
Bruce Blaser received Boeing's 2012 Special Invention Award, an award that highlights the best of the company's innovations. Blaser was part of a team that invented a technique to assemble a phased array of antennas using a flexible wiring board. Read more here.

Nursing Graduate to Serve as Senior Vice President at Loma Linda University
Judith Lloyd Storfjell, a 1966 nursing graduate, has been appointed senior vice president for patient care services at Loma Linda University Medical Center. Dr. Storfjell will serve as chief nursing officer, and associate dean of practice and research at LLLU School of Nursing. Read more about her appointment.

Pastor Ritchie Pruehs '79 Publishes The Story Bible
Available for download from Amazon, The Story Bible is a compilation of all the stories of the Bible, or narrative. The goal of it is to help the new believer get the essence of the gospel without having to read some of the parts that contain lots of numbers and lists, for example. Learn more about the author and to get your copy.

Have news to share?
Send it to us at alumni@wallawalla.edu.
CAMPUS NEWS

Business Majors Will Need Internship to Graduate
WWU's School of Business, our third largest academic program, will now require that all business students complete an internship before they graduate. The response to this change has been positive, says Josefer Montes, School of Business dean. Many of our students have already been doing internships. Read the full story.

Students Take "40 Days to Serve" Challenge
For the fourth year, WWU students are taking 40 days to focus on drawing closer to God. This year, the emphasis is on service and includes a short-term mission trip to Portland in mid-February to minister to the homeless. Read the full story.

Berglin Joins Theology Faculty
Returning to his alma mater, Brant Berglin, a 1995 theology graduate, says teaching in the Department of Theology is a dream come true. In addition to teaching other classes, he will be teaching courses in Greek (something he loves) while working on his doctorate in religion and New Testament studies. Read the full story.

For more information about any of our events, call the Alumni Office at 800.377.2586.

RESOURCES

Give a gift to WWU
Reserve a guest room
Update your contact info
Get help with estate planning
Search the WWU Archives

USEFUL LINKS

Alumni Website
Facebook Alumni Group
Flickr Photostream
LinkedIn Group
Westwind Online

Bibs for WWU Babies

Thank you for your participation in Phonathon.
Your support of the Walla Walla University Annual Fund will fund student scholarships, faculty professional development, and enhancements to the learning environment. So far, we have received $77,250 in pledges toward our $100,00 goal. If we missed talking with you during our fall campaign, there is still time to pledge online. Thank you for your continued support.

If you are an alum and have recently had a baby, email us your birth announcement. We will mail you a commemorative baby bib for your new little one. Bibs are soft cotton with a Velcro clasp and say
• **You're invited to the WWU Alumni Golf Tournament.** Are you a golfer? Join us for the annual Eugene Winter Alumni Golf Classic and play on Walla Walla's newest golf course! The format is a four-man scramble, shotgun start. The tournament will be held at the Wine Valley Golf Club on Friday, April 26, at 8:30 a.m. Register before April 5 and get a student caddy for your team. The registration deadline is April 20.

• **Join the KGTS 91.3 Facebook group.** In anticipation of the 50th anniversary of KGTS 91.3, a new WWU Facebook group, "KGTS 91.3 FM Alumni," has formed. All KGTS 91.3 staff alumni are invited to join. Also plan now to join us during Homecoming Weekend for an open house on Friday and a reunion on Sabbath afternoon. KGTS 91.3 has been owned and operated by WWU since 1963 and has since grown into the home base for the Positive Life Radio Network of stations with 17 broadcast outlets throughout the Inland Northwest and streaming online. Over 120,000 listeners are blessed each week by the network's inspirational contemporary Christian music format.

• **Reserve a room.** We have three beautiful guest rooms in the Havstad Alumni Center that are available to alumni, and we have recently lowered our rate to a flat rate of $60 (plus tax). To reserve one of these rooms, call us at (800) 377-2586 or (509) 527-2631 or email alumni@wallawalla.edu.

• **Spring issue of Westwind coming soon...** Look for the next issue of Westwind in your mailbox in early March. If you don't receive yours, please let us know. We may need to update your address.

• **Stay connected.** Join fellow alumni online by becoming a fan of the WWU Alumni page on Facebook or connecting to WWU Alumni on LinkedIn.

• **Share what's new in your life!** Whether you're recently married, received a promotion or an award, completed a new degree, or had a baby, we want to hear about it. Submit your alumnote now!

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"Future graduate of Walla Walla University." And don't worry if it has been a few months or even a year...you can still request one. This happy guy, the son of Monty Puymon '97 and Misty (WWU dean of women), is celebrating his 1st birthday.

Happy Birthday, Micah!

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**Homecoming Pennant**

Wally, our WWU school mascot, and Lafe Bissell '92, show off a sample of our new pennants. Be sure to pick up a smaller version of this one for yourself when you attend one of our upcoming events or come for Homecoming Weekend, April 25-28.

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**Did you miss the last issue of Alumni Currents?** Don't worry, you can still read it. Visit the archives now to catch up on past issues.

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Blaser and Boeing Team Receive Invention Award

Patent is Granted for Specialized Antenna

By: Rosa Jimenez

Bruce Blaser has been honored with Boeing’s 2012 Special Invention Award.

The aerospace company gives these awards “each year to individuals and teams who are inspired to create the kind of intellectual property that proves most valuable to Boeing and to the future of aerospace.”

Blaser was part of a team of six Boeing engineers who patented a 90-degree interconnect technique between a radiating printed wiring board (PWB) and another circuit board by attaching a flexible circuit to the PWB called “rigid flex.” This allows for a more uniform transition that is better for manufacturing and operates at millimeter wave frequencies.

“When you get into antennas that operate at really high frequencies, the geometry gets small, and it becomes difficult to keep a constant impedance over the line transition areas so you don’t get energy reflected back,” he says. “Two hair widths—0.004 inches—is a big deal, and it can be enough to make it perform poorly.

“The patent was a small part of the phased array antenna projects we work on,” explains Blaser. “These antennas are used mainly for satellite communication from moving vehicles, and we are continually striving to make them more mass producible. We would like to make them inexpensive enough to purchase at a local store and put on your camper.”

Blaser graduated from the Edward F. Cross School of Engineering in 1981, and began working for Boeing soon after. There, he and his electromagnetics colleagues are encouraged to generate at least one patent idea per year, and he enjoys the team-oriented brainstorming environment that results in stimulating ideas.

“When you get a group of engineers in a room with a white board talking technology, our idea of ‘fun,’ you build on other people’s ideas and sometimes come out with something useful, like in this case. In my job, you’re left with a fair amount of freedom to investigate ideas and push them to fruition,” he says.

Blaser was raised in Denver, Colo., where he attended Mile High Academy. He loves the outdoors and spent his childhood skiing, hiking, and camping in the Rocky Mountains. More recently, he has climbed Mount Rainier eight times, and enjoys riding his two horses in his spare time. He and his wife, Linda ’81, are parents to Tiffany Billington att., Chelsey ’12, and Janessa.
Judith Lloyd Storfjell, PhD, recently joined Loma Linda University Medical Center as senior vice president for patient care services. Dr. Storfjell will serve as chief nursing officer, and associate dean of practice and research at LLU School of Nursing. The Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center Board of Trustees named Dr. Storfjell to these positions at its May 22 meeting.

Dr. Storfjell brings to the positions extensive experience in education, research, health care administration, consulting, publishing, lecturing, and health care consulting.

“This is an exciting time for health care,” says Dr. Storfjell. “My time serving on the LLU Boards helped me realize how uniquely qualified Loma Linda University Health is to become a national leader in health care integration and quality with a dynamic focus on health and wellness. I am privileged to be a part of this journey.”

She previously served as professor; associate dean for practice, partnerships, and policy; and executive director of the Institute for Healthcare Innovation at the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing. She was responsible for the entrepreneurial and clinical practice initiatives of the college, as well as instructing graduate classes on health care financial and strategic management.

In terms of research, Dr. Storfjell has been funded to study: nurse retention; models of nurse-managed primary care for underserved individuals, physically disabled women, and persons with severe mental illness; care management and population health; and costs associated with acute care nursing units and home care interventions.

Dr. Storfjell also brings extensive experience in health care management and administration to her new positions. She is founder and past president of a diversified home health care company that operates in several states and is affiliated with a multi-institutional health care system. As president, she had overall responsibility for the development, management, and viability of certified home health and hospice programs, as well as private duty services.

For more than 20 years she has consulted on health care projects throughout the United States and abroad with specific emphasis on the organization and management of health care entities, strategy development and implementation, and positioning organizations for longterm viability. Her expertise extends to the integration of financial and operational strategies, activity-based costing, and the balanced scorecard concept in health care settings.

Dr. Storfjell has consulted on several Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention projects, including the Community Nursing Organization project (to study capitation in home care); the home care prospective payment and case mix development projects; and the Maine Public Health Emergency Preparedness programs.
Dr. Storfjell has lectured and published extensively on productivity, health care costs, and care management. She is co-author of the Community Health Accreditation Program’s standards for home care and community health organizations as well as co-author of the Easley-Storfjell Instruments for Caseload/Workload Analysis including a well-used patient complexity classification system.

She received a PhD in nursing from the University of Michigan with emphasis in health care administration, research, economics, and gerontology; an MS in community health nursing administration from the University of Michigan; and a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Walla Walla University in 1966.

Dr. Storfjell has served as Board member for several LLUAHSC Boards since 2008. In addition, she served on the boards of two other health systems, a university, and an international NGO. She is a member of the professional advisory board of United Healthcare and a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing.
Internships Implemented for Business Students

Majors Will Now Have to Complete an Internship to Graduate

By: Camlynne Waring

Starting with this year’s freshman, business majors will be required to complete an internship before they are eligible to graduate. The decision was made in order to give graduates an “edge” and to strengthen the Walla Walla University School of Business’ program for current and prospective students.

“Successful programs offer an assortment of benefits that provide value to students,” said Josefer Montes, dean of the School of Business. “The internship program is now one of those benefits.”

Reaction to the internship implementation has been almost universally positive. Many students already participate in internships in diverse areas such as the Adventist healthcare system, accounting firms, law firms, and non-profits.

“The most obvious advantage is that it allows students to add something substantial to their résumés,” said Montes. “Internships also help students identify what they really enjoy about business and as an added bonus, internships often turn into jobs.”

The School of Business currently has more than 150 majors, making it the third largest academic program at WWU.

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40 Days to Serve

Students Focus on Making Service a Part of Their Lifestyles

By: Hilary Nieland

Winter quarter Week of Worship marks the beginning of this year’s 40-day challenge. The challenge was started four years ago, and each year there is a different focus such as spending at least twenty minutes a day with God or stepping back from an activity that gets in the way of a relationship with God.

Last year students focused on prayer and Campus Ministries provided extra opportunities for prayer throughout campus including the opening of a prayer house called The Living Room. This year’s focus follows the theme of Week of Worship: service. The Associated Students of Walla Walla University has been working with local organizations to provide students with more opportunities to get involved and serve others. The goal is to help students make service a part of their lifestyles, rather than just events that occur once or twice a year.

The 40 Days to Serve challenge will emphasize outreach to homeless people and will include a trip to Portland on Feb. 15-18. Also included in the challenge is the ASWWU fundraising campaign to build wells in Africa to provide fresh water for several communities.

Paddy McCoy, campus chaplain often references the anonymous quote, “My life begins to have a point when I am no longer the point of my life.” McCoy says he hopes students will “be challenged to go deeper in their walk with God.”

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While at Andrews University, Berglin taught beginning and intermediate Greek. He will resume his teaching of the language in the spring.

“Ever since I took Greek here at Walla Walla from 1992 to 1994 from Ron Joliffe and Bruce Johanson, I’ve wanted to help others gain this intimacy with God and Scripture,” says Berglin. “Walla Walla students have consistently left this school well-prepared for further language studies at the master’s level.”

Beginning with winter quarter classes, Berglin is filling in for the classes John McVay was slated to teach. McVay resumed his role as university president Jan. 1.

When he is not in the classroom, Berglin is working on his dissertation on Revelation, which he hopes to have published. Afterward, he hopes to do more in narrative analysis of Revelation and possible even write a theology of Adventist eschatology.

Berglin spent four years pastoring in Alaska before entering the seminary for his master of divinity degree. He and his family then returned to Alaska for six more years to work as a pastor and church planter in Anchorage and Eagle River.

Returning to Walla Walla was an easy decision for Berglin and his family. “Receiving the invitation to teach here at Walla Walla is such an amazing dream-come-true,” he says. “We’re constantly praising God for His gift.”

He and his wife, Michelle, are the parents of Connor, 13, and Cami, 11. The family enjoys music and being outdoors. In his free time, Berglin enjoys cycling and bicycle repair, aviation, and playing guitar.

Published January 21, 2013

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