

Verbeck Smith, '57, and his wife, Kathleen, received a Pathfinder Award from the Alaska Historical Society for their book *Ice Window: Letters from a Bering Strait Village, 1892-1902*. The award is given to individuals who have indexed or prepared guides or published materials that were

The Whitman Collection



not previously accessible.

Ice Window is a compilation of letters written by Ellen Lopp who, with her husband, Tom, served as a missionary at Cape Prince of Wales in northwest Alaska. Lopp wrote about everyday Native life, visitors from trading and whaling ships, and the environment.

O. Alan Weltzien, '74, professor of English at Western Montana College, is editor of *The Literary Art and Activism of Rick Bass*, published in 2001 by University of Utah Press. It is the first comprehensive collection of literary criticism to address Bass's work. It contains the work of 15 scholars who examine the development of social, political, and personal issues in Bass's fiction and nonfiction. Weltzien also is coeditor of *Coming into McPhee Country: John McPhee and the Art of Literary Nonfiction*, due out this spring from the University of Utah Press.

Janice Kay Johnson, '76, is the author of 23 books. Her adult works include *Seize the Day* and *Home Again*, and *All Through the House* and *Lifesaver*, both of which were written under the name Janice Bartlett. Under the name Janice Stevens she has written six young adult novels including *Take Back the Moment*, which was named to the Children's Choice list of the International Reading Association and Children's Book Council. Her other books include an illustrated children's book, *Rosamund* (Simon & Schuster, 1994). Johnson lives in Arlington, Washington, with her two daughters.

Joni Sensel, '84, and illustrator Christopher Bivins received a Henry Bergh Children's Book Award from the ASPCA for *Bears Barge In*, published in 2001. The book was honored in the environment and ecology category.

John Fulton, '90, is the author of two books of fiction, the novel *More Than Enough* and a collection of stories titled *Retribution*. The novel was named a fall 2002 Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Selection. The short story collection won the Southern Review Award for the best first collection of stories published in 2001 by an American author. John has taught creative writing and literature at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

Announcing the

Whitman Athletics Hall of Fame

In order to recognize contributions of former student-athletes and coaches to the life and history of Whitman College, the athletic department has established the Whitman Athletics Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame's first inductees will be named in May 2003. This is the highest honor to be given to former Whitman athletes, said Travis Feezell, athletic director.

Alumni are encouraged to submit nominations, which are open until February 1, 2003. The award will be administered by the athletic department in cooperation with an executive board composed of former Whitman student-athletes and coaches. Induction into the Hall of Fame is scheduled for the annual athletics award banquet in late spring.

Submit nominations by February 1, 2003.

Induction is to be based on the following criteria.

- Inductees must be graduates of Whitman College or have served as a coach/administrator for at least five years.
- There will be a 10-year waiting period after graduation for athletes and a five-year waiting period after retirement for coaches/administrators. This may be waived in extraordinary circumstances.
- Primary emphasis for selection will be placed on the contributions to Whitman athletics. Other areas to be considered may include contribution to the College as a whole and/or achievements after graduation.
- No more than five candidates will be selected for induction in any given year.
- Individuals may stay in the nomination pool for a period of five years.
- In extraordinary circumstances, teams may be selected for induction.

To submit a nomination, contact Travis Feezell, athletic director, Whitman College, 345 Boyer Ave., Walla Walla, WA 99362. Email feezelt@whitman.edu. See www.whitman.edu/athletics/hof-nom.html.

On Campus

events

Spring Reunion Weekend,

April 24-27. Reunions of the classes of 1957, 1958, 1959, 1963, and 1973.

Commencement Weekend, May 22-25. 50th reunion of the class of 1953.

Fifty-Plus Reunion, June 12-15. Reunion of the classes of 1952 and earlier.

Summer College, June 15-21. Formerly called Senior Alumni College.

Fall Reunion Weekend, October 3-5. Reunions for the classes of 1978, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1993, and 1998.

Whitman Clubs

Denver, January 16. *Bernice/Butterfly: A Two Part Invention* by Nagle Jackson, '58, at the Ricketson Theatre. Pre-play discussion with the author.

Seattle, January 19. *Triumph of Love* at the Seattle Repertory Theatre. Pre-play discussion with Dan Donohue, '88, and Nancy Simon, '63, professor of theater.

Tacoma, February 4. "The Seven Summits," a lecture by John Waechter, '84.

Palm Desert, February 22. Alumni reception for area snowbirds. (Send the alumni office your winter address.)

Trips and Tours

Whitman in Ashland, August 8-10. 25th annual excursion to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Led by Professor Ed Foster. For plays, check www.whitman.edu/alumni, or call the alumni office at 1-800-835-9448, ext. 1.

Oaxaca, Mexico, March 23-29, 2003

Accompanied by Professor of Spanish Celia Weller, Whitman travelers will explore Mexico's culture, history, archaeology, and folklore. The group will visit the mile-high colonial city of Oaxaca, indigenous villages, and ancient ruins.

Vietnam, January 5-18, 2004

Alumni, parents, and friends are invited to participate in this opportunity to visit Vietnam with Professor of History David Schmitz, an American foreign policy expert who is currently writing a book on Vietnam.

To save resources — both natural and financial — separate notices about trips will no longer be sent in the mail. For details on the trips, call 1-800-835-9448, ext. 1. Email hoglund@whitman.edu, or visit www.whitman.edu/alumni.

Spokane admission volunteer honored

Whitman College honored Carol Murphy Ellis, '69, in September with the Alumni Admission Volunteer Distinguished Service Award for 2002.

Ellis was recognized for her many hours of service to the College in helping recruit new students. The 14th recipient of the award, she was chosen from among more than 300 alumni volunteers who assist the admission office each year.

A first-grade teacher at Whitman Elementary School in Spokane, Ellis is the parent of two Whitman graduates, Juniper Ellis, '92, and Ezra Ellis, '97.

Alumni Board Nominations

All alumni are invited to participate in nominating new members of the Alumni Association Board of Directors. The procedure requires 12 or more alumni to sign a petition on behalf of someone they will nominate. Members of the board serve three-year terms. Selection is based upon volunteer service for Whitman and representation from class year, geographic area, gender, and ethnicity.

Nominating petitions should be sent by March 3, 2003, to Polly Powers, director of alumni relations, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA 99362. If you have any questions, please call 1-800-835-9448, ext. 1.



25th Reunion of the Class of 1977

ROW 1: Bates Bates, '78, Janice Lazzara Toben, Priscilla Morton, Adrienne Juenke Greene, Meredith Rohner, Sharon Roe, Jerry DeGroot, Sue Behlke Foley, Susan Hazelrigg Volz, David Hoskot, Bob Coleman, Kaitlin Coleman, '08, Jennifer Brown Coleman, '78, Katy Butler Rapacz, Andy Rapacz. **ROW 2:** Amy Poland Bates, Karen Smith Guest, Paula McCormick, Suelene Wilson Phipps, Shelley Kurtz-Jack, Janis Knorr Glenn, Gregory Glenn, Clancy Wolf, Katherine

Stegner, '14, Elizabeth Stegner, '12, John Stegner, April Brookins Duvic, K. Waegelin Baxter, Brian Herman. **ROW 3:** Patricia Butcher Korn, Sue DeMaris Gifford, Claire Tuohy Morgan, Wendy Sanger McGuire, Laurie Arial Tochiki, Mark Olson, Larry Nelson, Mark Baldwin, Debbi Eglin Baldwin, Laurie Elgee Stegner, '80, Jan Stewart Dappen, Andy Dappen, '76. **ROW 4:** Steve Kirkpatrick (daughter Megan in front of Steve), Susan Dick Kirkpatrick (son Alec behind

Susan), Betsy Greene Sander, Harvey Morgan, B. J. Davis, Rowland Thompson, Roxanne Shepherd, Bill Nash, Holly Nash, Janet Schilling Mowery, Jenny Olson Strother, Neil Strother, Marie Nagy. **ROW 5:** Laura Kennedy Gould, Melisse Shipman, Becky Reed Stokes, Rick Colwell, Heidi Igarashi, '79, Paul Gould, Mike Giusti, Patrick Walsh, Bob Casey (far right). **ROW 7:** Ron Emhoff, Doris Minor, Narda Pierce, Carol Reed Rigby, Bill Watts, Kelly Walsh, Shauna Walsh, Maureen Walsh (with

Murphy), Elizabeth Norville, Elizabeth McGoodwin Chamberlin. **ROW 8:** Mark Bailey, Barbara Bailey, Jan Jecha (all three hidden), Don Bailey, Larry Stone, David Holcomb, Dan Fairfax, Linda Hayhurst Fairfax, Lauryn Agnew, Robert Winkler, Rett Smart, Torry Drysdale, Mike Benson. **ROW 9:** Greg Hickman, Carolyn Coats Martin, Barbie Jo Ross Nolet, Peter Schoenlaub.



20th Reunion of the Class of 1982

ROW 1: Jeff Even, Marilyn Gisser, Aaron Quilliam, Justin Quilliam, Collin Quilliam, Jon Quilliam, '83, Shelby Quilliam, Lisa Henderson, Louis Henderson, Elliott Cohen, Stuart Cohen, Chris Cohen, Ann Berner Counsell, Aly Counsell, Rachel Livengood, Ginger Riley. ROW 2: Yuko Fite, Nicholas Ketcham, Kathleen Hubbard Corriveau, Barbara Sidwell, Hadley Tallackson, Betsy Harvey, Joe Rumpeltes, Peggy Roddis Rumpeltes, Pam Allen, Jason Land (with Alexander), Julie Livengood,

Peter Livengood, Alexander Livengood, Jack Riley, Martine Hammond, Charlie Hammond, Lili Hammond. ROW 3: Brad Clure, Tate Fite, Allie Ketcham, Sue Rasmussen Ketcham, Julie Burnam Chandler, Lisa Griffin Novich. ROW 4: Barbara Swanson Clure, '83, Dave Douglas, '79, Ginny Bacon Douglas, David Valdez, Jack Horner, Rennie Squier, Sara Running, Lindy Thorson-Dodroe, Emily Schmitt Wigley, Stephen Osgood with Ali, Jean Burton Over, Stephen Over, Steve Elgee, Sara Woodruff Elgee.

ROW 5: David Buhler, Todd Trzcinski, Darcy Drysdale, Anna Hernandez, Mary Cleveland, Patrick Turner, Lisa Wilson Lambert, Anne Stoltz, Andra Nicoli Osgood, Connie Walsh Zillig, Susan Reynolds Workman, Chris Tallackson, Harry Ursin. ROW 6: Susan McMurchie Krieger, James Lindsey, Jillian Johnson, Julie Todd Johnson, Noelle Nitsos McGlynn, Chok-Pin Foo, Rosemary Hemp Langford, Bob Zillig, Brian Workman. ROW 7: Allen Weymiller, Cliff Schmitt, Sarah Swanson Michelson, Laurie

Holmgren Larson, Sarah Christensen, Ruth Wagner Ladderud (with Jerry), Dean Bethmann, Chris Johnson. ROW 8: David Ackertlund, Roger Wright, David Thomas, Betsy Palmer, Debbie Langfeldt McMeel, Ed McMeel, Jill Larson Turner, '85, Kyle Turner. ROW 9: David Eickerman (with Blythe), Peter Anderson, David Wetter, Peter Ralston, Shannon Smith, Leslie Laurnen Riley, Tammara Gibbons. ROW 10: Mike ThomasClarke, Jon Purnell, Susan Buxton, '85, with banner.



15th Reunion of the Class of 1987

ROW 1: Karen Langdon DeStefano, Anne Cottrell Spencer (with Quinn), Brent Baker with Dylan, Valerie Street, Peter Kane, Alice Cunningham, Audrey Pettersson (with Connor), Andrew Emlen (with Riley), Jane Cover (with Nathan).

ROW 2: Neil Parker, Kitt Baldwin, Peter Allen, Kelly Lemire, Jennifer Mazza Prince, Sarah Thomsen, Peter Jonsen, Cathy Wickwire, Jane George-Falvey. **ROW 3:** Thom Cleland, Amy "Jacqueline" Browne Anderson, Jay Aller, Ross Lemire, Dan Prince,

Chris Nordfors, Paige Prothero Reed, Amy Abbenhaus Barlow, Darryk Barlow, '85. **ROW 4:** Tom Talbott, George McKelvey, Deborah Brunton Hazlegrove, Traci Loe Whiteley, Mary Forster, Doug Keck, Eric Spencer. **ROW 6:** Jeff

Rolston-Clemmer, Benson Porter, John Boyden. **ROW 7:** Eric Sieverling, Jim Ekstrand, Tom Bailey, Joe Renn. **ROW 8:** Stuart Mills, John Hancock, Paul Turcke. **ROW 9:** Deborah Stenkamp, Kim Usher, Stephen McDuffie.



10th Reunion of the Class of 1992

ROW 1: Norrie Gregoire, '89, and Lucy Gordon Gregoire (with Sophia, Emma, and Nels), Flip Herndon, Michael McNaul, Jodi Wade-McNaul, Janna Cawrse, Graeme Esarey, Kristi Handley with Jacob, Kenzie Kaba, Jessica Harris Burles, '93, and Mark Burles (with Molly and Anna), Tina Kay, Jodi Allison-Bunnell (with Camas), Monique Milius, Jeff Schnabel, Cindy Schnabel.

ROW 2: Eric Vines, Jordan King, Catherine Chatfield, Lara Holman, Sarah Cameron Westfall, Dawn Robinson, Rob Kosin, Carrie Bickler Leavitt, Stephanie Scarborough Coy, Jennifer Wheatley, Angela Liljegren, Karen New, Paul Duke, Beth Morse, Scot Morse (with Mitchell). **ROW 3:** John Curtis, Beth Stark Curtis, Hillary Batjer, Kristi VanDe-Walker, Jenni Newby, Cara

Ely, Christy Lindquist, Jed Schwendiman, Lisa Reinwald Beck, Marie Baird Spalding, Erin Crawley, Jennifer Walsh Bowman, Keith Hand. **ROW 4:** Mike Estey, Suzanne Dale Estey, Matthew Webberking, Matthew Horner, Connie Mills-Horner, Michelle Mathieu Rubesch, Didi Manhas Saluja, Michael Smith, Tawnya Gerla Smith, Scott Schindell (with Sam). **ROW 5:**

Annee Worsham Hartzell, Jennifer Kazan Stapleton, Alicia Schomburg Matheson, Megan Blair-Cabasco, Kaelen Murphy Aramaki, Kelly Aicher, Travis McElfresh, Rick Carter, Tricia Moore Meyer, Bill Meyer, '93. **ROW 6:** Tony Cabasco, '90, (with Hannah), Luke Zilly, Tracy Scott-Zilly, Clark Youmans, Charlie Dresen, Erick Swinney, Caleb Thompson.



5th Reunion of the Class of 1997

ROW 1: Jordan Kirk, Karin Valaas, Betsy Carter, Amy Zigler Myers, Molly Willis Bell, Carole Skeeters Stevens (with Brody), Mike Becker, Quentin Batjer, Gavin Ricklefs, Andrew Schillinger, Greer Bevel, Patrick Sprinkle.
ROW 2: Tracy Stauffer, Kirsten Pattinson DeHart, Keri Enright, Jerusha Neill, Yoonie Kim, Marin Aldrich, Jeff Miller, Sara Maultsby,

Matthew desTombe. **ROW 3:** Brooke McCaffrey, '96, Emily Repanich Wegmann, Laura Schulz, Tara Kerr, Guy Antilla, Megan Weed, Sarah Frederick, Matt Anderson, Stacy Batson, Becca Sher. **ROW 4:** Jennifer Anderson, Kara Jepsen, Barbara McKinstry, Karen Pantilat, Karen Scorup Sharp, Greg Wyckoff, Courtney Whitmore, Chris Oze, Jennifer Andersen.

ROW 5: Gail Gove, Judith Max, '98, Becca McMullen, Tauryn Thatcher, Anne Thatcher, Janice Monger, Kathy Izumi, Kelly Marean, Joelle Rickard, Brandi Lillis Erbstoesz. **ROW 6:** Trevor Neal, Betsy Raymond, Andrew Noble, Dri Ralph, Castle Funatake, Holly Munyan, Mindee Clem, Anne Marie Shields Charnholm. **ROW 7:** Chris Bromley, Jesse

Finkelstein, John Schack, Chris Cramer, Stephen Putt, Alecia Walters, Juliet Dowsett. **ROW 8:** Brett Gomsrud, Stephen Fallquist, Hythum Ismail, Jeremy Shuman, Paul Newell, Kristofer Peterson, Amentahru Wahlrab, Charlotte Wells. **ROW 9:** Brian Medlock, Lavon Pinto, Michael Heath, Ben Norris, Pascal Goorbin, Amanda Elegant.

Alumni winemakers and growers combine art, science . . . and hard labor

Washington state is now internationally known for its premium quality wine, and the Walla Walla Valley has come to play a significant role in that recognition. On some of the more than 1,000 acres now producing world-class grapes in the Walla Walla Valley, Whitman alumni are combining hard physical labor with a passion for their product.

L'Ecole No. 41, one of the most established wineries in the valley with Whitman roots, has been producing premium varietal wines since 1983 in the historic Lowden schoolhouse. Best known for its merlot, the winery now produces about 25,000 cases annually. The winery was founded by Baker Ferguson, '39, and his wife, Jean, who passed the business along to their daughter, Megan Clubb, '79, and her husband, Marty. Marty acts as chief winemaker for L'Ecole, while Megan, who also is the chief executive of Baker Boyer Bancorp, is involved primarily in promoting the winery, its history, and its products.

Jay Babbitt, '02, recently joined the ranks of L'Ecole, where he takes charge of retail sales and runs a wine club for frequent customers.

An English major, he saw the wine industry as an interesting and growing market as well as an opportunity to try something different, he says. He was surprised, not only by the amount of physical labor involved, but also the breadth and scope of the clientele, who represent all 50 states and numerous countries. "It's exciting that a little place in the Walla Walla Valley can receive so much publicity."

A newer operation with a Whitman background is Buty Winery, founded and managed by Caleb Foster, '91, and Nina Buty Foster, '97, in 1998. Caleb worked at two wineries in Washington before the couple married and spent their three-month honeymoon in New Zealand. There Caleb apprenticed under an enologist while Nina observed winemaking and wine marketing.

At the winery, Caleb is the primary winemaker. Nina, who serves as general manager, enjoys the way her work combines formula with creativity.

"Making a blend of wine is like making a painting using a fluid palette. Wine-making combines art and science to create a variable and often spontaneous product," she says. The Fosters plan to open a wine tasting room in the future.

Jim McCarthy, '63, and his business partner, Larry Krivo-

shein, launched Russell Creek Winery four years ago. Russell Creek's production capacity and demand



have steadily increased since its inception. A senior vice president at Baker Boyer Bank, McCarthy became involved in the industry through his passion for the product.

"If you like wine, you are fascinated by the process," he says. Winemaking, however, takes not only great care and artistry but also plenty of physical labor. "The demanding and continual process required for a small winery is not for the faint of heart," says McCarthy. It involves patience . . . and "a lot of stained clothes."

Whitman alumni also work in other aspects of the wine industry. They include, for example, David and Priscilla Wyckoff, both 1967 graduates, who are proprietors of a vineyard at Wyckoff Farms in Prosser, Washington. Their nephew Charles Wyckoff, '94, is vineyard unit manager. His responsibilities include supervising the daily operations of the vineyard, preparing land, and maintaining plants. Working on the land each day, he appreciates the creative



challenge of growing top-quality grapes. "It's like a chess game," he says. "Each operation can be made more efficient. The trick is to be as resourceful as possible in each stage of the growing." And, he adds, "the work of those in the fields is crucial to the success of the wine industry."



Grape growers Jeffrey and Kathy Bates Hill, both '78, own Forgotten Hills' Vineyard. The couple began planting grapes on their three-and-a-half acres of rocky land as an exciting way to "keep down the weeds." Planted in 1996, their vineyard is considered an "old" one by Walla Walla Valley standards. More than five years in the ground allows the roots to grow deep and the plants to pick up trace elements from the soil that translate into the taste of the berry, according to the Hills.

Both gardeners at heart, Jeff and Kathy are excited about the cycle of growth in their vineyard. "Every April you see the sticks turn green, slowly grow their grapes, go through veraison [changing of color] until it's time to harvest," says Kathy. "Then the cycle starts all over again." The Hills enjoy the growing recognition of the Walla Walla Valley in the industry, as well as the prospects for winemaking culture. "It's going to get more exciting. This is merely the tip of the iceberg."

Whitman alumni have found success in the wine industry outside of the Walla Walla Valley as well. Steve MacRostie, '67, is owner and winemaker of MacRostie Winery near Sonoma, California. With more than 20 years of experience, he produces chardonnays and other wines that have been profiled in *Food and Wine*, *Wine and Spirits*, and other magazines. Mark Beaman, '97, works as a wine tracker and viticulture technician for Stimson Lane Winery in Hopland, California. He follows the development of the wine from grape to bottle, performing laboratory analysis at both the winery and in the vineyard.

Beaman was one of several alumni who spoke last June at Whitman's Summer College, which explored the Walla Walla wine industry from various perspectives. Beaman discussed the alchemy of winemaking, and McCarthy, Krivoshein, the Hills, and the Fosters also shared their expertise and passion with Summer College participants through presentations and samplings from local wineries.

— Mo Brady, '03