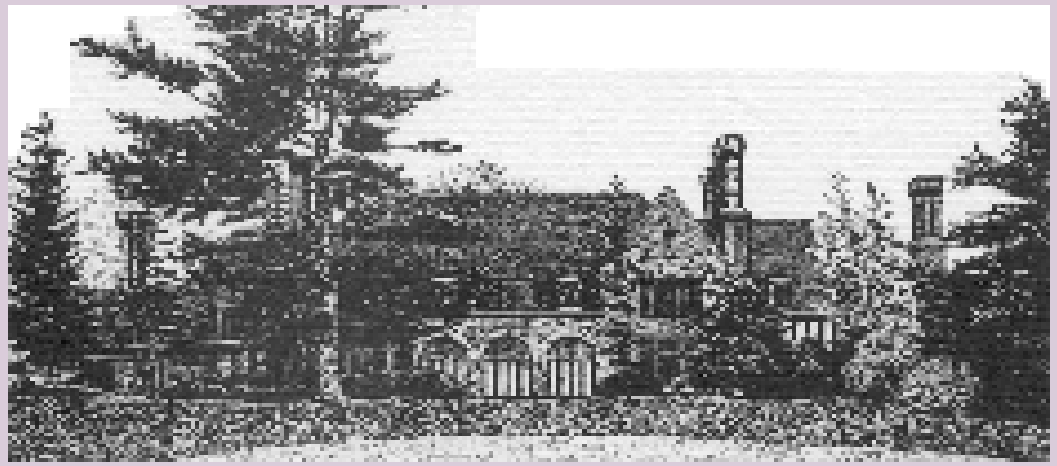


WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE

PUBLISHED BY THE WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



a l u m n e w s

VALHALLA, NEW YORK AUGUST 2003



Six members of the graduating class of 1953 were guests of honor at this year's commencement ceremonies. Pictured above, left to right, are Selma Kravetsky Strassburg of Mamaroneck, Joseph Vallely of Ramsey, NJ, Vincent Vetrano of South Salem, Jack Fariello of Elmsford, John Rogalski of Auburn, NY and Charles McTygue of Yorktown Heights.

Earlier that afternoon the "Golden Anniversary" alumni attended a reception in their honor in Hartford Hall. It was the first time they had seen each other in 50 years. Then they were whisked away to a pre-Commencement VIP buffet in the Student Center. Members of the Alumni Council were on hand to help them into their academic robes and show them to their places at the head of the Commencement procession. All in all, it was definitely the kind of day that memories are made of.

INSTRUCTIONAL DINING ROOM IS "HEAVEN" FOR THE FRUGAL GOURMET

Looking for a new place to meet a friend for lunch? Thinking how nice it would be to go out for a gourmet lunch without running up a huge credit card bill? Have we got a deal for you!

For a delicious change of pace at an almost silly price, you can come to WCC and have lunch in the Instructional Dining Room. Every Tuesday during the fall semester, and Tuesday and Wednesday in the spring semester, WCC Restaurant Management students prepare and serve elegant full course meals as part of their course work. The cost is a very nominal \$5, and you don't have to work on campus to enjoy the delicious fare--anyone is welcome to come. On any given day you will see tables filled with local residents who know they've found the best food deal in town.

To further arouse your curiosity and whet your appetite, here is one of the menus that was served in the Instructional Dining Room last semester:

Grilled Coconut Shrimp with Salsa Dipping Sauce
Roasted Flank Steak with Mushroom Sauce
or New England Cod Supreme
Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Steamed Asparagus with Grilled Squash
Mixed Baby Greens topped with Balsamic Vinaigrette & Toasted Pignoli Nuts
Light Rye Bread
New York Style Cheesecake with Fresh Strawberries
or Ice Box Chocolate Chip Cookies
Coffee, Tea or Tropical Iced Tea

Did we say five dollars? Yes, that's the price. The small charge helps to cover the cost of each day's ingredients and give the students a necessary and valuable learning experience. They prepare the menus at the beginning of the semester, building each menu around a theme such as Cinco de Mayo, Mardi Gras, Columbus Day, Passover, etc. And anyone who's sampled their offerings will tell you that the food is delicious.

So why not plan on having lunch at WCC one day this fall and tasting for yourself what our students are capable of? The Instructional Dining Room is located in the Student Center, and opens for lunch at 11:30 a.m. Service is generally completed by 12:30, so plan on arriving early. For more information, please call Emmy Creskey at 785-6765.

ALUMNI DAY 2003 WE'RE GOING "UP THE RIVER" ON OCTOBER 18TH!

Come back to your alma mater and be part of our special Alumni Day activities for 2003. This year we will be having a very special event for the afternoon--A BOAT RIDE ON THE BEAUTIFUL HUDSON RIVER. We will leave from Tarrytown on the 1:15 boat and cruise the Hudson for two hours, enjoying the views of the fall foliage and the sparkling waters of the Hudson River which brought life and livelihood to this part of New York's heritage.

The day will begin on campus in the Student Center. Our morning events will include a sumptuous BRUNCH and our now famous SILENT AUCTION, along with the presentation of the Voyager Award, updates on the College by Dr. Hankin, and the presentation of Anniversary Certificates. We will be honoring the graduates of 1948, 1953, 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, and 1998.

You'll find the complete Alumni Day schedule on page 4, along with a registration form. Please sign up now to reserve your spot on the boat and at our lovely event.



Travel back 200 years in two hours. Sail up the majestic Hudson and gaze at scenery that has inspired painters and writers for over two centuries. Your guide will share history and stories about one of the nation's most historic and beautiful rivers.

HONORS STUDENTS STUDY AT CAMBRIDGE

"It was amazing--absolutely amazing!"

That was the first comment from many of the 18 WCC Honors students who recently returned from three weeks of study at Cambridge University in England.

The 18 scholars, all students in, or new graduates of, the WCC Honors Program, left the U.S. on the first weekend in July for one of the greatest adventures of their lives. Six of the students were supported by the WCC Foundation, thanks to donors Barbara Abeles and Shirley Durst.

They were accompanied by Dr. John F.M. Flynn, Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs, who acted as their faculty advisor and mentor at Cambridge.

"It was a wonderful opportunity for our students," said Dr. Flynn. "They lived in the student rooms at St. Catherine's College, ate dinner each night in the Hall, attended two seminars each day and were invited to sit in on two plenary lectures each day in the University's lecture halls."

This was the first year that WCC has sent students to participate in the International Summer School Program in Shakespeare Studies, a three-week summer session at one of the most prestigious universities in the world. WCC is one of only three community colleges in the nation to offer this program for credit. Rockland Community College has participated in the program for six years, and Montgomery

Community College in Maryland is now in its fifth year.

Dr. Mira Sakrajda, professor of English and co-director of the WCC Honors Program, made all the arrangements for WCC to take part in the program and coordinated the entire trip. She was as excited as her students about the unique and challenging opportunity.

"They could have been in the same section as students from the Sorbonne and Yale, but at the same time they knew they had support from Westchester Community College," said Dr. Sakrajda, adding that the program is part of a trend for community colleges to offer more advanced academic courses while also maintaining open enrollment and offering remedial help.

"Being in the medieval city of Cambridge for 20 days gave them a chance to meet students from around the world and to really get to know the magical town on the River Cam," Dr. Flynn said. "They had the opportunity to see Shakespeare's plays at the Globe Theatre in London and at Stratford-on-Avon. It was the opportunity of a lifetime and all 18 students seemed to be making the most of it. We are especially gratified to the Foundation donors who underwrote the cost of the program for those students awarded scholarships."

Although the classes were taught by Cambridge professors, the students were graded by their professors at

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WCC Honors students lived for three weeks in this 500-year old building at St. Catherine's College, Cambridge University

WCC CELEBRATES PEEKSKILL SITE EXPANSION

The Westchester Art Workshop in Peekskill, a division of WCC, unveiled ten new classrooms, an arts studio, and a formal lecture hall at a ribbon cutting event on June 20. The event celebrated the expansion of the college's multi-media educational facility. The \$1 million renovation utilizes the second floor of the facility's 27 North Division Street location and doubles the size of the site to 20,000 square feet.

"The site is one of the county's unique educational treasures, yet its ability to offer programs has always been limited due to a lack of space," said Westchester County Executive Andy Spano. "It's wonderful to be part of a plan to expand those offerings and attract more students in the

northern part of the county."

The Westchester Art Workshop was founded in 1926 and is housed in the County Center Building in White Plains. In 1994, the Peekskill WAW facility opened at its current site. Peekskill offers classes in computer arts, graphics, multimedia and digital music, and boasts more sophisticated equipment than many major art schools.

Through these two sites and the main campus in Valhalla, WCC has become one of the region's premier educators in digital arts and music. This addition to its facilities will ensure that WCC remains at the forefront of education and training for students in the digital age.

THE FOUR MOST FAMOUS WORDS IN SPORTS: "DRIVERS --START YOUR ENGINES!"

By Gina Pelliccio, '95

It's not just cars making left turns or watching cars drive in circles all day long. We're talking stock car racing, ARCA, BUSCH Grand nationals and Winston Cup Racing – America's fastest growing spectator sport.

The first thing that needs to be done is to dispel the rumor that fans of car racing are Southerners, hillbillies, rednecks and that if you put them all together they wouldn't have a full set of teeth between them. That statement is so far off the mark, it's actually insulting to those of us who spend our weekends watching the races from our homes or the stands.

Race fans run the gamut – from CEO's, lawyers, schoolteachers, construction workers and housewives. And America's fastest growing spectator sport isn't for the light of pocket. Although the vast majority of races are held on the East coast (the Cup season boasts 35 races per year – the longest sporting season going!) it's not the type of sport that is usually driven to the day of the event like a football or baseball game. One reason is the amount of traffic that is generated going to the venue, another is that it's usually not just one race on the weekend.

And a typical race "weekend" for the die-hard race fan will begin on Thursday and end on Monday. Thursday usually brings ARCA and BUSCH qualifying (that is what determines that starting grid for the main event). If it's Friday, it's Cup qualifying, and practice sessions. Saturday's main events are either the ARCA race or the BUSCH race followed by Winston Cup Happy Hour. No, that's not where all the Cup drivers gather for drinks and munchies – it's the final hour of Cup practice before Sunday's race; a final chance to see how the car handles or to make any last minute changes to the car's set-up (which does vary from track to track).

For those that travel to the races for the weekend, by car, they are looking at a minimum of four days away and having their pockets at least \$750 lighter. Most hotels that are within 20 miles of any race track will ask for a three night minimum at a premium price (and since most races occur in areas that are not often traveled, this is the hotel operator's chance to make what they have lost the rest of the year because they know people don't like to travel far or get stuck in a conga-line of traffic that can stretch for 3 miles!). To paraphrase a popular commercial:

- Three nights in a hotel close to the track--\$575
- Cost to view Qualifying--\$10
- Cost to attend the ARCA race--\$35
- Cost to attend the BUSCH race--\$45
- Cost to attend the Cup race--\$80
- The opportunity to be seen in the crowd on television or to see your favorite driver take the checkers - - - - PRICELESS!

THERE'S PLENTY OF FISH IN THE SEA-- AND ED WECHSLER'S GOT 'EM ALL

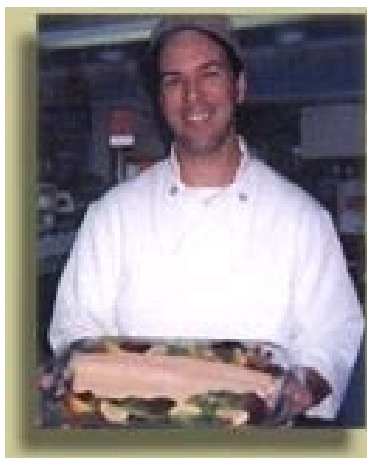
At the young age of 36, Ed Wechsler has been in the seafood business for 19 years, 14 of which have been spent at his own store, La Mer Seafood Co., in Armonk.

La Mer's retail shop is a typical wood sided shanty structure with the character and charm of a New England harbor town. The shop is clean and organized, and carries a full line of fish and shellfish, along with all the ingredients needed to prepare them at home. And for customers too busy to cook, Ed prepares a wide assortment of seafood dishes to go. Wechsler obviously loves what he's doing; La Mer is open seven days a week.

Ed Wechsler was born and raised in the Bronx as the first American generation of his family. He started college with the goal of becoming an architect, but dropped out and got a job with Butcher Boys, where he learned how to cut meat and-- more importantly-- how to deal with customers.

"Then I worked at the Village Market in Chappaqua," said Wechsler. "That was where all my skills were fine tuned."

While he was working as assistant manager of the fish department at Scotts Corner Market in Pound Ridge, Ed decided to go back to school to take "some business courses". He enrolled at Westchester Community College and soon found himself immersed in the study of business management and marketing.



Ed Wechsler in his shop with the "catch of the day"

The timing couldn't have been better. With the ink on his diploma barely dry he heard about a seafood market that was for sale in Armonk. At age 22, with money he had saved through his various jobs, he purchased what was then Armonk Gourmet Seafood. His whole family and several friends took vacation from their jobs to help him prepare the store for a grand opening.

"Three other fish markets had failed here before me," said Wechsler. "We gutted the place and then we cleaned it. And gradually, as I could afford it, I would fix one thing at a time. I found that very hard, dirty work, lots of trial and error, long hours, and a constant search for knowledge regarding anything and everything even remotely related to seafood and the food service world, would be my only hope. It paid off."

The success of La Mer goes far beyond the shop's four walls. The company ships its products nationwide. Tired of sending your parents a fruitcake every holiday season? Go online and send them a pair of live or steamed lobsters, or an entire lobster bake. La Mer will also cater your home or office party with trays of seafood delicacies.

Prepared foods available for take-out include soups and chowders, main courses fully cooked, marinated fish, and hot lunches and dinners to go.



Doing the Hat Dance in Nashville's Victory Lane with four-time ARCA series champ Frank Kimmel, his kids, and the Advance Auto Parts #46 Team (that's Gina at the far left).

sponsors up to my elbow--a place most race fans would love to be (behind the scenes)--it is work. Whether it's running to get a decal or a part, or to climb atop the transporter to time your car around the track – it's work. And when the race finally does come, I have already been in the scoring booth (high above the track) 90 minutes before. And I don't get to watch the race – only the car I have to do the scoring and timing for, making sure I note the pit stops, cautions and time behind the wall in the garage.

But then there are the moments when the car you score for takes the checkers. It's a mad dash for you to turn in your scoring sheets, rush to the steps or the elevator, hopefully you can get a ride or cross the track and make it to Victory Lane for the celebration, the shower of Gatorade or soda, the photos and the hat dance (it's where the driver and team take photos in Victory Lane with the various sponsors and their logos on hats). Now THAT is priceless!

So with 35 Cup races, an almost equal amount of BUSCH races and 20 ARCA races being run from February through to November – you are almost sure to catch me in front of the television with a race on, on my way to a race, in the garage, in the pits, in the tower and hopefully more than once in Victory Lane!

The President's Corner



Dear Alum,

I recently received the following letter of praise for one of our students who is doing field work for her course in Human Services. The writer, whom I will refer to as "Keith", had this to say:

"I am writing you on behalf of my father who is eighty-two years old and lives alone. I am his sole provider. He has received devoted attention and genuine concern from your student, Mrs. _____. Words cannot express nor actions display the gratitude and appreciation that our family has for her continuous efforts, and work that she does. In January of this year my father was very hopeless. Today he is greatly hopeful. I am totally convinced that one person can make a huge difference in someone's life. Mrs. _____ has done just that through words and deed. I know that she is just simply doing her job. Let it be known that she is doing it in a fervent, efficient, and very professional manner."

"Keith" goes on like that for another paragraph. Perhaps you too feel that an individual at the College has made a difference in your life or in the life of a loved one? If so, let us know about it. In this world, where it is far easier to complain than to compliment, speak out and let us pass on your good wishes. Even if you don't want that person to know what you say, or to be quoted, let us know and we will figure out a way to let them know how much you care.

Westchester Community College is a caring place. We hear that over and over again, year-in and year-out. It is people who make the difference. If in your education here you encountered someone who has made a difference in your life, tell us about it so we can share the information with others.

We always like to hear from alumni. I am sure that your faculty members and others with whom you might have come in contact while here would like to know what you are up to. In short, keep in touch—it makes us feel good to know that you still care enough to write.

Cordially yours,
Joseph N. Hankin, President

RECEIVE INCOME FOR LIFE

FROM THE
WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION



Are you 65 or older, looking for an investment with a higher, stable rate of return, and interested in supporting the future of the College? The WCC Foundation is ready to make lifetime fixed-rate payments for annuity gifts of \$10,000 or more.

Trade in your low-interest bank account or CD, or save on capital gains tax by funding an annuity with appreciated stock. You will receive an immediate income tax deduction, and part of each payment to you will be tax-free for a number of years. Rates vary according to age.

CALL THE WCC FOUNDATION AT 914.785.8578

FOR AN ESTIMATE OF YOUR RATE OF RETURN
& TAX SAVINGS

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT

WWW.SUNYWCC.EDU/FOUNDATION

CLICK ON "PLANNED GIVING"

THEN "WCC PLANNED GIVING GUIDE"

"I am a chef by definition but not through formal training," says Wechsler. "I'm self taught through reading and cooking programs, trial and error, classes, and working beside great chefs. I'm very proud of my recipes, some of which I've been working on since I was first introduced to the industry 19 years ago."

In his rare spare time, Wechsler plays the saxophone in a "garage band". He often brings his sax to work so he can practice for a few minutes after the store closes. He and his new bride Suzanne also enjoy swing dancing and often make their way to Swing 46, a popular swing dance club in Manhattan. "We try to go at least once a month," said Wechsler, who made sure to hire a band that was strong in swing music for their recent wedding.

Fifties

ROBERT G. WEISS, '54, is happily retired with his wife Lucy in Dunwoody, Georgia. After graduating from WCC he joined the military and served overseas constructing military facilities in Europe and North Africa. After leaving the service in 1956 he joined a major consulting engineering firm in New York and was originally involved in designing portions of the new interstate highway system. With additional studies he expanded his engineering design activities to other transportation design efforts for airport, railroad and rapid transit facilities.



Robert Weiss

From 1973 to 1999 he worked as Project Manager on major transportation projects around the country, including Atlanta, Boston and Los Angeles. He helped to build heavy rail transit systems, highways, tunnels, and rapid transit systems. In 1998 he relocated back to the Atlanta area and served as Operations Manager for the engineering consultants assisting a major communications company in installing 20,000 miles of fiber optic cable throughout the US. He retired in 1999.

JOSEPH POSCICH, '56 is retired from his job as an assistant Civil Engineer with the New York State Department of Transportation. Joe and his wife Dorothy live in Poughkeepsie.

CAROLA FICO, '56 and **'81**, retired from Phelps Memorial Hospital after 21 years of Critical Care and Emergency Room nursing. She and her husband now live on Cape Cod.

Seventies

SYLVIA ZARECKI THORNE, '70 is a registered nurse at Brunswick Community Hospital near her home in Sunset Beach, North Carolina. Her husband Fred, also a WCC graduate ('70), is a realtor/broker for Coldwell Banker Real Estate. He was a member of the Veterans Club at WCC and went on to earn his BBA at Pace University, while Sylvia continued her nursing studies at Mount Vernon Hospital. Sylvia and Fred moved to North Carolina from New Fairfield, CT in 1999. They have two children, Heather and Kevin.

GEORG HESSENIUS, '71 wrote, "I recently received my Alumnews and I was very saddened to read of Prof. Battaly's passing...I have never forgotten my history professor."

DESANDER "DES" MAS, '72 is the principal owner of Shields Mas Learning Resources, Inc. (SMLR), a management consulting firm that he established in 1994. The SMLR team is committed to helping individuals and organizations maximize their personal and professional effectiveness through innovative thinking, interpersonal communication skills, personal growth and selling skills. Located on Long Island, Its clients include Pfizer Pharmaceutical, Merrill Lynch, Boehringer Ingelheim, and Colgate-Palmolive, and the City of New York.



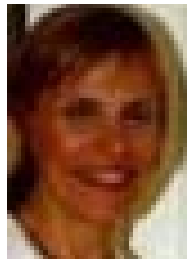
Desander Mas

Besides SMLR, Des also served on the boards of the Northport Little League, American Society of Quality (ASQ), is a member of the Northport Arts Coalition and is president of The Sons of the American Revolution for Long Island. He and his wife Carol have two children, Chelsea and Devin.

JUDY CARLSON, '76 is presently the golf coach for Pace University, and also an assistant Golf Pro at a local private club. Judy is the president of NYCON Asbestos Removal Company. She would love to hear from some of her former classmates.

ROBERT ROMANO, '77 has worked at IBM in Jericho, Long Island for 22 years and was recently promoted to Certified Territory Manager. He lives in No. Massapequa and has two sons, Thomas, 13 and Brandon, 11. Bob is an advisory board member for Helen Keller Services for the Blind.

JANIE L. ROSMAN, '78 is a freelance writer and editor with a bachelor's degree in Communications/Literature from Pace University. Janie writes, "My life has steadily improved since WCC, especially in the past 15 years. I've realized many of my personal and professional goals, I'm a published journalist and am currently writing a book."



Janie Rosman

EDWARD WINIARSKI, '78 wears many hats as husband, father, industrial engineer and entrepreneur. Ed was the subject of a recent article in the *Westchester County Business Journal*.

The 47-year old WCC alumnus is the head of two companies headquartered in Dobbs Ferry. EAW Electronic Systems Inc., and Optimum Applied Systems. Both companies are in the business of facilities management, that is, providing lighting, wiring and security to buildings. They are known for such products as the Electronic Trip Flare, a portable security system that operates by remote control; the hydrophone, which detects and differentiates the sounds of everything from the drop of a coin to the drop of a pin; and the heat computer, a small black box that controls the temperature in boilers to prevent overheating and conserve energy.



Ed Winiarski
WBJ photo by Elizabeth Hlotyak

Ed is an industrial engineer with over twenty years experience in manufacturing management, specializing in the electronics industry. He received his associate's degree in pharmacy and science from WCC in 1978. After working for several years as a foreman at Otis Elevator, he decided to return to WCC to get a degree in electrical technology.

Winiarski launched EAW in 1988 with his wife, Victoria. The small contract manufacturing business evolved into a successful multi-million dollar enterprise with many government agencies among its clientele. In 1999 he purchased OAS because, as he says, he "saw a good marriage between a product and manufacturing." He reversed the negative sales trend, diversified the product line and established a corporate identity with brand name for a national market.

The two companies have a combined staff of 35 people, mostly scientists and engineers. In 2002 their combined revenue was \$2.8 million, and Winiarski predicts that this number will approach \$7 million by 2005. In addition, Winiarski has plans to soon purchase a third company.

Even though it's a short distance from Valhalla to Dobbs Ferry, Ed Winiarski has certainly come a long way!

Nineties

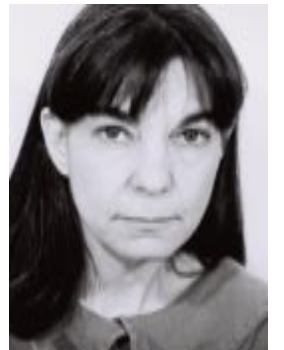
DAWN CUTAIA-WATCHILLA, '91 graduated from WCC with a 3.5 GPA and went on to Barry University in Miami where she earned a B.S. in Political Science and graduated summa cum laude. She attended The Dickinson School of Law (now part of Penn State University) and graduated in 1996. She has had her own law practice since 2000.

ROBERT DeSIMONE '96 is the Sales Manager for the Edith Macy Conference Center. He studied Marketing at WCC and has the highest praise for his former teacher, Prof. Peter Doukas. "Prof. Doukas changed my life for the better!", he writes.

CYNTHIA BUEHLER, '99, began attending WCC when she was 40 years old and caring for her five-year-old son. For many years she had dreamed of attending college not only for her own self-improvement but to make a better life possible for her son. Once enrolled, she wondered how she would be able to afford it. Then she was awarded a scholarship from the Institute for SocioEconomic Studies and her dilemma was solved. Cynthia graduated with honors from the Food Service/Dietician program and is now working as a dietician at the Sarah Neuman Healthcare and Rehabilitation Facility in Mamaroneck. She works with the geriatric population and enjoys every minute of it. And she is still grateful for the assistance she received at WCC.

New Millennium Grads

CAROL PFEFFER, '00 is a practicing attorney, with a concentration in criminal litigation and administrative law. She is also an artist and a photographer and has a bachelor's degree in Physics (with a concentration in low temperature thermodynamics)! This versatile woman recently received First Prize from the Canadian Association of Physicists Sixth Annual "Art of Physics" Competition, for her work with the optical effect "birefringence".



Carol Pfeffer

To start at the beginning: Carol received her bachelors degree in physics and philosophy from Boston University in 1976. Four years later she graduated cum laude from law school, was admitted to the bar, and joined a private law firm doing civil rights litigation. From there she went on to serve for many years as an Assistant District Attorney in Queens County with the special victims and supreme court trial bureaus. She was next appointed an Administrative Law Judge with the NYC Department of Finance Parking Violations Bureau.

At that point she began to re-explore her interest in science through the arts. She spent the next few years pursuing the Certificate in Visual Arts from WCC and developing a variety of original and unprecedented contact and projection techniques producing unique cameraless color prints. One of these techniques is the optical phenomenon of "birefringence".

Birefringence is an effect that occurs when polarized light is passed through a stressed plastic. To explore the process between the interaction of density and space, Carol uses watercolor and ink suspended in a translucent medium -- plastic. The plastic sheet is stressed by mechanical gesture, which creates an internal disturbance due to force distribution inside the plastic. The composition is then exposed by polarized light in the darkroom. This photograph is made without a camera by treating the plastic sculpture as a film alternative and exposing it with polarized light.

"I have always had a preference for the abstract over the concrete," said Carol. "My work, which I describe as non-representational photography, puts meaning first. My excitement for scientific exploration is pervasive in my work and techniques, which exploit the geometric optics and chemistry of the darkroom. This is where the artist meets the scientist."

Meanwhile, the artist and scientist is still practicing law full time. Carol is a staff attorney for My Sisters' Place, a shelter for victims of domestic violence in White Plains.

Carol has been a guest lecturer on color theory in the painting department at Hunter College. She has also been a teaching assistant at the International Center of Photography. Her work has recently appeared in *Photo District News* and in the May issue of *NYArts Magazine*.

Carol gives WCC a great deal of credit for her successes in the field of art and photography. The Phi Theta Kappa graduate stated, "I had a great experience at WCC!"

LISA STAMATELOS, '01 graduated from Pace University on May 19 summa cum laude with a GPA of 3.96. She is the proud recipient of the Scholastic Achievement Award for the Lubin Business School and the Management Faculty Award. Pace nominated her to appear in this year's edition of Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. She is a member of several honor societies including: Alpha Chi, Beta Gamma Sigma, Golden Key, and Sigma Iota Epsilon (President). She also served as VP for the Management Society this past academic year. In December, she started a new job as the HR Coordinator for Field Home in Yorktown and finds her work both enjoyable and interesting. In order to expand her horizons further she has decided to pursue an MBA and hopes to start graduate school this fall. "Please send my regards to everyone at WCC and let them know that I put the Michaelian Scholarship to good use. WCC is very special to me--it is where I began my journey to academic success."

ERIC KORT, '02 is Vice President of KIC Chemicals, Inc in Armonk. KIC exports and imports chemical ingredients used in foods and cosmetics. Eric was involved with Phi Theta Kappa while attending WCC. He recently wrote, "WCC was a great place to learn. I was able to take classes that interested me because they were affordable, and before I knew it I had enough credits to graduate! I have since hired several WCC graduates at my office because I believe their educations are among the finest of any college graduates I have known. I look forward to continuing my education at WCC now that I have finished my degree."

The photo above shows Eric with WCC alumna **SHANON PURDY**, who recently joined the KIC staff as accounts payable manager.



Shanon Purdy & Eric Kort

Cambridge Study Program

Continued from page 1

WCC. Upon their return they were required to write several research papers to complete the course requirements.

Students said they were initially drawn to the program by the reputation of Cambridge University and the opportunity to study abroad. They knew they would be exposed to the "upper echelon of education," an exposure that will definitely help them when they apply to a four-year college.

Kalia Stewart, '03, a 22-year-old aspiring civil rights lawyer, decided to go because she had always been interested in meeting people from other cultures. Afterward, however, Kalia was most enthusiastic about the bonding which had occurred among the members of the WCC group. "We hardly knew each other when we left," she said, "but I think that we are now friends for life. It was an incredible experience."

Rob Schwartz, another member of the group, stated, "The Shakespeare Summer Program at Cambridge has enriched

my comprehension of Shakespeare, expanded my knowledge of the British culture, and surpassed all expectations I might have had of attending an historical university. I have become attached to the surroundings of the English student lifestyle finding it difficult to leave Cambridge behind and have been found wanting to return".

Requirements for the Cambridge Program include a minimum GPA of 3.0. The course offers four honors credits, which are usually transferable. The \$3,200 cost includes course work, room and board, and an honors mentor.

WCC alumni and students from other colleges can apply to participate in the Cambridge Program through WCC. Now is the time to apply for Summer 2004; the 2004 program will offer courses in History and Art History, in addition to Shakespeare. For more information, call Prof. Mira Sakrajda at 785-6472 or e-mail mira.sakrajda@sunywcc.edu.

"Project Wildflower" in Bloom on the Taconic State Parkway

Meadows of yellow, white and pink wildflowers are blooming along the Taconic State Parkway in Westchester between the Pleasantville/Pleasantville Road exit and the 134/Ossining exit. Six different meadows, planted exclusively with native flowering perennials, can be seen on either side of the parkway and the median. The flowers create beautiful vistas for local travelers and tourists as well as provide birds, butterflies and other wildlife with additional food and habitat in Northern Westchester.



A breathtaking sight awaits travelers on the Taconic Parkway, thanks to the work of The Native Plant Center at WCC

Project Wildflower was initiated several years ago by Westchester Assemblywoman Sandy Galef and jointly sponsored by The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College, and Teatown Lake Reservation in Ossining.

Region 8 of the New York State Department of Transportation took the lead in planning and budgeting for this beautification and wildlife support project after attending the "Managing Roadsides Naturally 2000" Conference at WCC which was sponsored by The Native Plant Center.

The Native Plant Center and Teatown were ready to pitch in with advice and funds to pay for a consultant. A landscape designer was contacted to create the seed list and plant the seeds.

Native perennial wildflower seeds were sown in June 2002 alongside the Taconic in Westchester. They successfully germinated to form carpets of yellow tickseed and black-eyed Susans in July 2003, and soon to bloom are purple coneflower, yellow coneflower, goldenrods, and asters.

Taconic travelers are assured a lifetime of pleasure as they pass these meadows year after year and watch them change and develop. Native birds, butterflies and other wildlife will also benefit from the food and shelter these meadows provide. Non-productive grassy areas have been changed into productive, life-enhancing and beautiful meadows with the help of The Native Plant Center at WCC.

The Native Plant Center at Westchester Community College is dedicated to educating people about the importance of wildflowers and native plants of the Northeast. As the first national affiliate of the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin, Texas, we are extending the educational and environmental concepts of the Texas Center to this region. We share information on choosing, growing, and maintaining native plants. Our mission is to educate people about the environmental necessity, economic value and natural beauty of native plants in the Northeast.

We have also created the Lady Bird Johnson Demonstration Garden on the WCC campus. It contains native species which will thrive in the Northeast. There is no better way to learn about and understand these plants than by watching them grow, mature, flower and seed. In addition, we offer lectures by native plant experts at the college.

If you would like to support our mission or find out more about us or Project Wildflower, please call The Center at (914) 785-7870, or e-mail wcc.nativeplant@sunywcc.edu. The Native Plant Center is a project of the Westchester Community College Foundation.

Plant Propagation Workshop and Lecture Saturday, October 4th. Presented by William Cullina of the New England Wild Flower Society. Registration required. Call 914-785-7870.

Friday Night Film Series Enters 12th Year

The hugely popular Friday Night Film Series is beginning its twelfth year at WCC with the Fall 2003 season. Listed below are the six outstanding recent films which will



Prof. Bill Costanzo

be featured this fall. The series is hosted by Prof. Bill Costanzo, who introduces the films, provides program notes, and leads discussions. Showings begin at 8:00 p.m. in the Academic Arts Theatre; refreshments are provided. A season subscription costs only \$36; for senior citizens, \$30. A single admission, when available, is \$8 (\$7 for seniors). For further information, call 914-785-6700. Infrared listening devices are available at the box office.

***The Fast Runner on September 5.** This 2002 Canadian release is the first feature ever filmed in the language of the Inuit people of the Arctic Circle. Based on a story dating back a thousand years, it follows Atanarjuat's coming of age in a world where ice and snow compete with ritual and intrigue, jealousy and betrayal, and human dignity. Inuktitut with English subtitles.

***Innocence on September 12.** In this Australian film from 2001, Paul Cox proves that love near seventy can be passionate. His couple--separated since their teenage romance--meet for tea and discover they are still in love. What happens next? In English.

***No Man's Land on September 19.** Danis Tanovic's dark comedy from Bosnia (2001) about the absurdities of war won an Oscar and a Golden Globe Award for Best Foreign Film. Set during the 1993 conflict in Bosnia, the film centers on two soldiers, a Bosnian and a Serb, who find themselves caught in a trench between opposing armies. The film is in English with subtitles in Bosnian, Serbian, Croatian, and French.

***Yana's Friends on October 3.** Arik Kaplun's spirited romantic comedy (Israel, 2001) is set in Tel Aviv during Gulf War tensions, when sirens warn of Scud missiles while lovers make love. The winner of ten Israeli Oscars, the film weaves the stories of Russian immigrants, demonstrating that "life goes madly on despite the most fearsome threats to our safety and security." (Andrew Sarris.) Hebrew and Russian with English subtitles.

***Behind the Sun on October 10.** Walter Salles' latest film (Brazil, 2001) is about families caught in a relentless feud and romance springing from barren soil. Beautifully photographed and acted, the story is both hauntingly realistic and provocatively allegorical, a ray of hope in a fatalistic world. Portuguese with English subtitles.

***Mostly Martha on October 24.** This German film of lighter fare from 2002 introduces Martha, a German restaurant owner and workaholic food fanatic. Mario is an Italian chef with a zest for life and an artistic temperament. While their collision course is predictable, the results are nonetheless delightful. German with English subtitles.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION

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ALUMNI DAY SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 18, 2003

8:30--9 a.m.

REGISTRATION
COFFEE AND TEA, ETC.
SILENT AUCTION OPENS

9:00-10:00

INTRODUCTIONS AND WELCOME

10:00 - 10:30

PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

10:30- 11:30

BRUNCH
CONVERSATION AND COMPANIONSHIP

11:30-12:00

WRAP UP, CLAIM AUCTION PRIZES
GATHER FOR TRIP TO TARRYTOWN DOCK

12:15

LEAVE FOR THE DOCK

1:15-3:15

NORTH HUDSON RIVER CRUISE BY
NEW YORK WATERWAYS

3:15

CONCLUSION OF TOUR

Other important times: The silent auction will be open from 8:30 to 11:00. At the conclusion of the brunch (11:30) winners will be announced from the microphone. Winners can pay for and collect their prizes prior to leaving for the afternoon event.

Note: In the event of rain, and should the boat trip not occur, workshops will be held during the 1:00-3:15 time slot and will be announced that day. We do, however, expect WONDERFUL weather and a superb experience. PLEASE JOIN US! Fill out the form below and mail it TODAY. (Don't forget to tell us your year of graduation.)

Alumni Day 2003 REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fee: \$35.00

Return this form with your check for \$35 or you may charge Visa or MasterCard.

Please mail by October 10 to:

WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION
75 GRASSLANDS ROAD VALHALLA, NEW YORK 10595

Name: _____

Important : WCC Class Year: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Day) _____ (Eve.) _____

E-mail _____

Enclosed is my check for \$35 to WCC Foundation.

I am bringing _____ guest(s) at \$35 each.

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name(s) of guest(s): _____

I wish to pay by credit card: MC Visa

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date _____

Cardholder Name (please print): _____

Cardholder Address (if different from above): _____

Daytime Phone (if different from above): _____

Signature _____

You may fax credit card registrations to:
914-785-6515

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