



To Beeghly Library Friends:

I hope you enjoy the last of the Crosby stories in this issue. Whether you knew the Crosbys or not, you will get a chuckle out of Ken holding up the lumber on the back of his vehicle as they moved up the streets of Huntingdon. Also, enjoy the interview by Jim Gooch with Dale Wampler who moved seamlessly from chemistry to computers in the math department.

Sincerely, Harriet Kaylor, President of the Friends of the Library

DALE WAMPLER

Nearly every Juniata student with a major or POE in chemistry in the 60's and 70's and in math and computers in the 80's and 90's came under the tutelage of Professor Dale Wampler. Dale has been a Juniatian since 1961, arriving with a doctorate in structural inorganic chemistry from the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

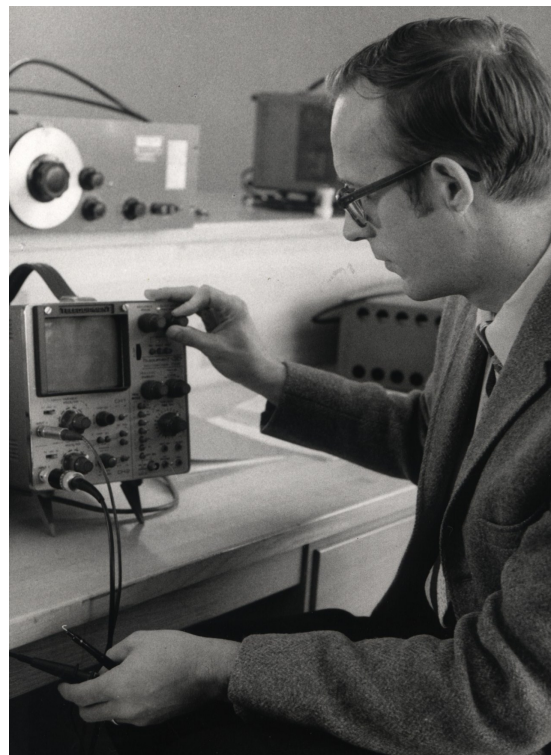
Juniata was the last stop on a journey that began in the mountains and valleys of Virginia and West Virginia. His earliest recollections are of the hamlet of Boones Mills in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains (almost impossible to find on a map!). Much of his youth was spent in equally mountainous Petersburg, WV, where his father was the Church of the Brethren pastor. Dale fondly remembers the sows and chickens he raised for Future Farmers of America competitions during the two years he resided on his grandfather's farm near Harrisonburg, VA.

Dale probably would have attended Berea College owing to its low tuition, but his academic record in high school won him financial aid at Bridgewater College in the Shenandoah Valley. A Juniata alumnus teaching chemistry at Bridgewater, Professor Thurmond Grossnickle, supervised Dale in summer research, and helped direct him to the inorganic chemistry Ph.D. program at Wisconsin.

Shortly after accepting the offer to teach at Juniata, Dale attended a church conference in Long Beach, California. He happened to notice a young lady wearing a Juniata pullover. The young lady was wife-to-be Eva, nee Wagner, and the rest is history. Dale and Eva have a son, David living in suburban Maryland, a daughter, Maryanne, resident of Santa Barbara, CA, and four grandchildren.

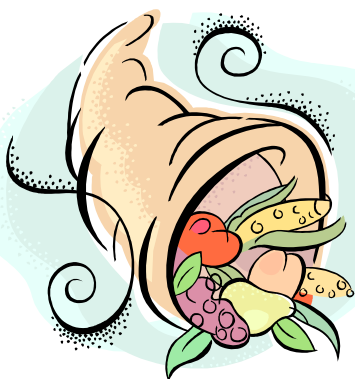
At Juniata, Dale taught physical chemistry, a heavily mathematical branch of chemistry. During the course of a National Institutes of Health grant he was awarded, Dale studied the X-ray diffraction patterns of crystals. This computationally-demanding research cried out for computer assistance in number-crunching. As a result, Dale became an early pioneer in mating computers to chemistry instrumentation, and his influence is still seen in the highly sophisticated chemistry labs one still sees at Juniata.

Apparently the pull of computers was too much for Dale, for he hopped over to the math department in 1981, as Juniata's computer program merged into that department's responsibility. There one of his jobs was to ride herd on the cantankerous, early-generation IBM 1620 computer and its successors. Young scientists today with their laptop PCs have no idea of the bulk of those old floor-model computers and the volume of heat they gave off during operation.



According to Dale, a memory that still sticks in his mind is the send off of the bus and cars that left for the Selma, AL march on that March afternoon in 1965. As the caravan of friends, colleagues, and students departed, Dale was among the well wishers who watched them vanish on the southward road.

Dale retired from teaching in 2000, but has not slowed down appreciably. He has a restored 1948 Studebaker (it runs) as a plaything. Most of all, Dale and Eva are world travelers, who include the Soviet Union, India, and Nigeria (this last as church volunteers) and many other way stations in their travels. Next stop, says Dale, as the winter snow is beginning to melt in central Pennsylvania, the Galapagos Islands.



For some time, the Juniata College Friends of the Library Executive Committee have been soliciting storied memories of Ken and Jane Crosby. Our intent was to put one of them in each of our newsletters, which come out biannually. There is now such a good collection, we think we should put more than one into a single issue.

From Lois McDowell comes the following:

“How did the Crosbys affect me? I have never forgotten them, and 60 years later remember their warmth and friendly interest in people. Their personal integrity was evident from our first meeting. They had a way of putting a sparkle in everyday life! At Mountain Day my freshman year, I remember Jane (Miller then) strumming a ukulele, sitting on a log, and inviting me to join in some singing. I remember her many years later, still singing in old age, sitting at a piano in the Stone church fellowship hall, playing ‘My Life Flows on in Endless Song.’ I was not a home ec major, but took a few home economics classes from Jane at Juniata because they were creative and practical. (Color and Design. . .learning to weave on a loom; and Sewing. . .she steered me through making a satin bridesmaid’s gown!). I took several history courses from Ken, but especially appreciated his careful guidance in Freshman Writing. He could point out errors and still be encouraging.

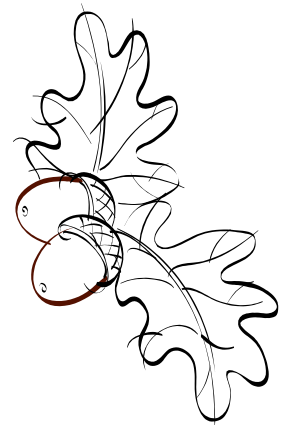
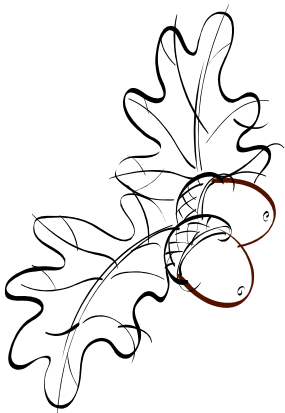
“It was news on campus when Jane and Ken, both professors at Juniata began dating, and their marriage soon followed. The years they taught at Juniata and the years serving the Huntingdon community were blessed by the strong positive outlook these two people provided in everything they undertook. They wanted to make the world a better place.” (President’s note: And they did!)

From Pat Kepple:

“Obviously I didn’t know Ken because I didn’t arrive at JC until 1998. I have a memory of Jane that I have told many times to those who knew her. Everyone talks about how gracious she was. Well, I have proof. Several years ago I ran into her at a Juniata convocation. She had been brought to the convocation by the Westminster Woods van. The next day I happened to run into her again at Weis Market, where she was shopping with an ‘escort’ from the Woods. I walked up to her and asked, ‘Did you enjoy Convocation yesterday?’ She replied, ‘Oh, was I there? If I was, I’m quite sure I enjoyed it.’

“I also have heard many alumni speak of the time she and her husband transported a load of lumber in the trunk of their car from downtown Huntingdon to their home near the college. (President’s note: now the home of the Clarksons) She drove and Ken walked behind the car holding the ends of the lumber. Everyone who saw them notes that it wasn’t that hard on Ken until Jane turned a corner and he had to run to keep up while holding onto the ends of the lumber to keep the lumber from falling out of the trunk. Although I didn’t witness it myself, it is an image that is fun to imagine!”

Poet, Shara McCallam, reads poetry in the Klaus and Ellin Jaeger Information Commons, October 27th.



More Memories of Jane and Ken Crosby

From Dave Oliver, Class of 1963

“Dave Oliver here, class of 1963, and a history major. Many fond memories of the Crosbys—my sophomore year I lived in Saylor House (18th and Mifflin) that the Crosby’s purchased the following summer. We were all (12 of us) invited to their apartment on the night before Lent began for sweets that Jane had prepared (fasnachts?) I remember dinner at their home after comps when Ken displayed the silverware that had belonged to Adolph Hitler that he had secured while in the Army. On at least one occasion, the Crosbys drove Marion (my wife, Class of 1964) and me back to campus from downtown in the Nash. Great teacher—loved the man. Always enjoyed visiting with Jane on campus after Ken had passed away and she was always delightful.”

From Daughter Christina Crosby:

“The campus felt to me like a big playground, which says a lot about how our parents interacted with the college community. The Stone Church of the Brethren is on the campus, and Dad’s office was downstairs in our home, where students lived upstairs in the back bedroom, ‘the students’ room’; the classrooms where Dad taught were no more than 5 minutes away, especially if he cut through neighbors’ back yards. [The house at] 1732 Mifflin St. [was] a ‘hostel’ ready to accommodate not only family, but also friends, colleagues, students.

“Dad remarked more than once on the pleasure he took seeing young Bill Berrier (later Juniata’s athletic director for so many years) and his brother when, after a hard-hitting afternoon of Saturday football, they would be sitting in [church] neatly combed and dressed in suits. [The image] confirmed his own sense that Juniata allowed students and faculty alike to thrive academically, socially, and spiritually.”

From Robert S. Gardner, Class of 1963:

“I was a history major and had several courses from Dr. Crosby, who was a great teacher. It was obvious that he loved history and teaching. During my senior year I was not sure what I was going to do when I graduated. At some point Dr. Crosby suggested that I apply for, I believe it was called, the Tilden Root Scholarship, at New York University Law School. It was a very good scholarship and had a fairly demanding application. I can recall going over to his house a number of times during one weekend and Dr. Crosby giving me lots of his time and encouragement. At that time he had a couple of young children. I have often thought since then how generous he and his wife were with their time and the interruption to their family life. . .Dr. Crosby was a wonderful person and an inspiration to me.”

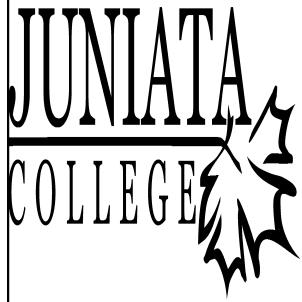
From Wilda W. Eberly, Class of 1954:

Ever since I took U.S. History from Ken Crosby in 1950 /I admired him. He was a great teacher and example. When we were studying the Great Depression he told a very intriguing , suspense-filled story. The whole class was held spellbound as the suspense built. When the story climaxed with the family hearing a gunshot coming from an upstairs bedroom a very empathetic student let out a mournful “ahhh”, breaking up the tension of the class. Master teacher!

When the Crosby’s had their first child it was the first time I had seen a baby being carried in a sling from around the mother’s neck. Very practical!

Jane once told the story of a new bride who asked her advice on making one of those “thrown-up salads”.

As always, thank you for being a Friend!



BookFriends

Fall 2010

Newsletter of the Friends of the Library

L.A. Beeghly Library—Phone: 814-641-3452—Email: houckc@juniata.edu

L.A. Beeghly Library

Juniata College
1700 Moore Street
Huntingdon, PA 16652



As always, thank you for being a Friend!

View From the Director's Office:



It has been a briskly paced and enjoyable semester at the library. Our new librarian, Jason Mickel, has quickly moved up to speed as Head of Instruction, and the library's instruction efforts have been well received by students and faculty. The library is also busy assessing its functions as we find out more about how we are doing in the eyes of our users. Our banned books display was met with curiosity, and the month ended with a poetry reading by the Director of the Stadler Center for Poetry at Bucknell University, Poet Shara McCallum. Her poetry, spoken with a Jamaican accent, was found to flow quite beautifully, to the large audience attending. Thanks for being a Friend! And enjoy the holidays!

As always, thank you for being a Friend!

Kind regards,
John Mumford