

The Willard Warbler

Alumnae President Report

It is truly amazing that we are celebrating the 135th Anniversary this year. To kick off the yearlong celebration of our 135th anniversary we will have an Open House/Dessert Social at the Willard house August 3rd from 3-5 pm. You will have the chance to meet our new house Mom, Stacia Andersen, and see the renovations made to the living room and TV room (only possible with your donations). Following the open house, please join us for pizza in the dining room at 5:30 with a \$10 donation. Pizza will be followed by a fund raising game night event with Decade Trivia. Grab your old roomies or a Willard from each decade so you can win a small prize. Other games will be available to play or you can choose to just hang out with other Willards. We also hope to include a campus tour. If staying in the house again is on your bucket list and you want to organize your old roomies for one last slumber party contact your sisters, bring your own bedding and then email me your plans. So, start now contacting your sisters, it is always more fun with our favorite Willard sisters.

The next phase of the year long celebration will occur during the year. We will be collecting 135 memories of 135 years at Willard. For every event the Actives have, Recruitment (rush), house parties/formals, homecoming, firesides, Crest Breakfast, Pink and Pearl, philanthropies, we will ask you to send your memories and pictures with a free will donation to Cindy Boss. Cynthia.Rae.Boss@gmail.com or 10220 N 150th, Waverly, NE 68462. She will put together a photo montage that will be shown at the Alumnae Luncheon and will post them during the year on our Willard alumnae Facebook page. So start looking for your old Willard scrapbooks and share with us the "Joy of Willard."

We will also have our annual Soup Supper to meet the new members and our Red Velvet cake night in February to get to know the women in the House. The final event will be our Annual Alumnae Luncheon to be held in the spring.

For more information about any of these events you can always reach me at Judykrueger4@gmail.com or by phone at 402-432-3399.

Willard Love

Judy Krueger ('72)

*Kick off the yearlong celebration
of Willard Sorority's*

135th Anniversary

Open House/Dessert Social

5110 Madison

Saturday August 3rd ♦ 3-5 pm

Pizza party in the dining room

5:30 pm ♦ \$10 donation

*Fund raising Decade Trivia
6:30 till we have laughed so
hard we have to go home!*

*Bucket list slumber party at
the house*

Questions -

contact Judy at Judykrueger4@gmail.com

From the Active President

We currently have 47 members! At the end of the semester we celebrated our 14 seniors who graduated with Pink and Pearl along with senior fireside. It was bittersweet to have those last goodbyes with the seniors whom we will miss dearly. The 47 of us remaining members are excited for fall semester and can't wait till recruitment so we can add to the Willard sisterhood.

Sara Bogel

From the Corporation President

Dear Willard Alums,

It is time again to send you an update on our school year. It started out with a great recruitment and was a very busy year. I don't know how the girls keep up with everything. As always on a home that is 63 years old there is always work to be done. Our first unexpected purchase was a refrigerator for the kitchen. We finally got the outside doors on the north painted. Unfortunately, we had another leak in the ceiling in the living room this winter. We hope the cause is finally remedied and the carpenter did a great job. The safety of our girls is always a first priority and we updated our security system. Our biggest concern was taxes, which I had mentioned last year. Thanks to Judy Eicher's hard work and determination they weren't as high as we feared. Taxes are always a huge concern and expense.

A few days before school started our cook was moved to another campus and so our new cook, Patrick, arrived. We only had 26 in the house last spring. We are very excited because we expect to have 36. Our advisors have been working hard on strengthening our sisterhood. We are very excited because more seniors will be living in the house. We did have to raise our room and board from \$6600 to \$6935. It is still the best deal on campus.

We have many exciting plans for the summer. We are replacing the carpet in the living room, television room, and the steps. The carpet on the upstairs hallways and steps is still fine. We have purchased some new furniture for the living room and television room. We are also replacing the window treatments in the living room. We also plan to make some changes in the television area downstairs too. Do you remember your lights in the vanity in each bedroom? Well, the original ones are still there but we are purchasing new ones and doing electrical work. We were so fortunate to receive a \$50,00 gift from the Nancy Ess estate. This may be used for the upkeep, etc. of the house

We are so excited about our new housemother, Stacia Andersen. You may read more about her in Spotlight on Stacia.

We know we wouldn't be thriving and moving forward if it weren't for all of your love, support, and financial gifts. We are so thankful. It is never too late to pay your dues or give a monetary gift. Please send to Judy Eicher, 10101 Edgewater Lane., Lincoln, Ne. 68527.

Please take care and stay well. We hope you can visit your Willard House at 5110 Madison Ave.

Willard Love,

Nora Bohling Hinrichs

Recruitment News

"Hello, my name is Quinn Knispel! I am a senior and this year's recruitment chair for Willard. We are so excited for recruitment this year, and to welcome a new group of wonderful people into our chapter.

On Tuesday August 20th, we will have our Alumnae patio party from 5:30-6:30pm, and then our mock tours to follow from 6:30-8pm. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to my email @qknispelnebrwesleyan.edu or text me at (402)-672-3342 with your name and that you will be coming to mock tours.

Formal recruitment this year will be August 22nd-24th. If you would like to help serve red velvet cake on Saturday, August 23rd formal night, please email me.

In this newsletter is the Willard Reference form. If you know anyone coming to Wesleyan, encourage them to go through the recruitment process. If you would like to write anyone a recommendation, please email me or mail the reference to the Willard house. **I would like all recommendations by Friday, August 16th.**

Thank you so much for all of your help and support during this year's recruitment!



Willard Foundation Report

In December of last year we were able to issue 13 Willard actives scholarships for a total of \$19,000 plus another \$500 from the Nancy Ess gift. The foundation continues to benefit from our generous alum that gave \$100,000 dollars in 2017. Then in 2023 another generous alum gave \$100,000. Half to the foundation and half to the alums. The \$50,000 to the foundation will be in the form of a scholarship each year called the Nancy Ess scholarship. Also available to only Willards is a \$50,000 scholarship through NWU

Our foundation is committed to do whatever we can, whenever we can, to make a difference and help Willard sorority.

Jan Brockley,

President

Meet the new House Mom – Stacia Andersen

We are so excited to welcome our new House Mom, Stacia Andersen. I have included some of the fun things she shared with us.

Hello, I have spent the last five years as a House Director at UNL. An old high school friend enticed me to become a house director, the rest is history. It was the best decision I have ever made!

I grew up in a small town in Nebraska. Not knowing what I wanted to do in life I began a 10 year career in the airline industry where I worked every position possible including baggage handler to flight attendant. I spent 17 years as a FedEx Courier and eventually went to BNSF Railroad as a conductor. It is not a joke when I say I have truly done the "Planes, Trains and Automobiles!"

I moved and traveled all those years before marrying and the arrival of my first son Walker. We moved back to the great state of Nebraska to raise



our two boys. Chase arrived four years later. They are now 27 and 31 years old and both live in Lincoln.

I enjoy people, yoga, cycling, walking the trails and many other activities. The young women I shared my life with over the years have kept me on my toes but I certainly couldn't ask for better roommates!

It was a great surprise when I was awarded the House Director of the year at UNL three years ago and also again last spring. This award is sponsored by the offices of Sorority and Fraternity Life with the Greek members voting on this award.

I am honored and feel so fortunate to have the opportunity to serve as the new house director at Willard and to share in the lives of so many amazing young women!

As James Patterson once said, "You are lucky if you find something you love to do in life and it's a miracle if you find someone who will pay you to do it!"

Warbler News 2024

Class of 1956

Sheralee Hill Iglehart – Palo Alto, CA

Sheralee is working on my 5th book "10 Diamond Rings." We've sold our Stanford university home of 52 years and are renting an apartment. New address is 165 Forest Avenue Apt 3C, Palo Alto, CA 94301 which we like very much.

Marilyn Wagner Allison – Temple, TX

Earl and I continue to be active and in good health. Since January, I have been decluttering our house, as we are on a waiting list for a senior residential apartment. Hello to all my Willard sisters.

Class of 1957

Marlyn Nelson Ballard – Overland Park, KS

Starting 4th year at Tall Grass Independent Living in Overland Park, KS. Last year John Calvert's sisters Marian & Catherine Calvert Behrens came to visit and I got to see them. We all three lived in the original house at the same time. Hope they will be back. Any other Willard to be near, call me 417-766-7654, we will set up a visit.

Class of 1960

Janice Long Reader – Plano, TX

Not much news – enjoying life in Texas with my new pacemaker.

Janet Madsen Davidson – Colorado Springs, CO

Still directing church choir & playing in a band. My son, daughter and I are making a trip to Alaska in July – driving! Greetings to all at our 135th celebration luncheon.

Class of 1959

Beverly Anderson Grady – Lincoln, NE

Bev passed away January 16, 2024. She loved her years at Wesleyan as a Willard and professor.

Class of 1966

Lucille Heather Kitt – Ballwin, MO

I am busy with VWF, a women's group formerly UMW and helping Stuart who has limited mobility. Bobbi Daugherty is a treasured connection. The best news of all – Kitt Louise Jacues was born two months early at three pounds. She is now a chubby cheeked charmer with dark blue eyes and lots of brown hair.

Class of 1970

Kathy Kleager Randall – Scottsbluff, NE

Greetings everyone! We are enjoying retirement in Scottsbluff. I haven't slowed down yet – maybe someday! There are 2 lakes on our property we call grandkid magnets and we don't care whose grandkids they are! Our oldest granddaughter got married a year ago and I'm told I will be a great-grandmother in late September – who me? I'm not old enough for that!! Guess I'll have to stop thinking of myself as being 40-something. SIGH... If you are out this way we have 2 mostly-almost always-empty bedrooms waiting for company. Willard Love, Kathy "Kleg"

Heather Craig-Oldsen – Ponca, NE

I'm still busy in retirement, writing grants for our community of Ponca and for Lila Mae's House for women who have been sex trafficked. Also writing a book with my sister, Ann Craig, which has been rewarding in so many ways. I love getting together with Willards on zoom and at PEO meetings.

Class of 1972

Diane Hall Ritzdorf – Centennial, CO

There's nothing really new in my life. I'm still healthy, and golfing and volunteering.

Linda Pielstick French – Hasting, NE

Our son, Jonathan (graduated from NWU in 2009) is getting married to Jes Biondo in July in North Carolina.

Judy Bowmaster Krueger – Lincoln, NE

Our family is all doing well. We celebrated the marriage of Kelly & Luke Covault last spring. A wonderful celebration with family & friends.

Class of 1973

Terry Yost Westing – Melrose, FL

Life is full of surprises for me, the most recent becoming a Floridian & newly married at age 72! My name & address will not change but a snorkeling Bahama honeymoon this year is a definite change! J.C. Firehouse, a Christian singing group I was a part of at NWU, had a reunion in Lincoln in 2023. The Willard housemother & current active execs gave us a wonderful hour tour. It's all looking GREAT! I was filled with great Willard memories.

Class of 1977

Donna Manley - Thousand Oaks, CA

Greetings to all my Willard sisters. I have been living in California for the last 32 years. Currently,

I am teaching elementary special education. I am finishing my 24th year teaching in California. Retirement is nearing, but there is no set date. My 3 children live in North Dakota and different cities in California. Those in California are close to me. I have one grandchild, Nico, who is 4 years old. Unfortunately, I do not get to Lincoln as often as I did since dad passed in 2018. I talk to Mickey McDaniel '77 regularly. My years in the Willard house were filled with joy and created many wonderful memories.

Class of 1978

Sue Krieger Anderson – Tucson, AZ

A big Willard hello from AZ. Please call or stop by if you are ever in Tucson. A shout out to sisters in the classes of 1977, 1978 and 1979. Blessings to all!

Class of 1981

Connie Hultman Carter – Chappell, NE

We are busy keeping up with our four grandchildren. We enjoy watching Nebraska sports on television and going to Husker football games. I like hearing about my Willard friends. Hello to everyone.

Class of 1986

Cheryl Bones-Casey – Carter Lake, IA

Jim and I are still working. He at Mutual of Omaha and this is my 18th year of being a high school teacher. Both of the kids are done with college and have full-time jobs. Life is good.

Class of 2010

Alyssa Sickel Finck – Falls City, NE

I continue to reside in Falls City, NE with my husband Cliff. I stay busy as a family medicine physician and mom to our 2 boys, Carter & Parker.

Class of 2014

Jennifer Survil Reim – Gretna, NE

Our second daughter, Randi Michele Reim was born on 1/4/24. Big sister, Rylee, loves her new role! We couldn't be more in love! Parents, Jarod & Jennifer Reim.

Class of 2017

Caitlin Welty Nellis – Omaha, NE

Caitlin Nellis and husband Mark welcomed a baby girl, Sophia Ann Nellis, in August of 2023. They are so excited to raise another generation of Willards!

Please Return before Friday, August 16th

Reference given by:

Address:

**CONFIDENTIAL REFERENCE ON PROSPECTIVE NEW MEMBERS
(For use ONLY by the members of Willard Sorority)**

This form is being sent to you in order to assist our chapter in the 2024 new member selection process. Please give careful consideration to the questions asked and fill in as much information as possible.

***Please return this form to: qknispel@nebrwesleyan.edu
or Willard Sorority, Attn: Quinn Knispel, 5110 Madison Ave, Lincoln, NE 68504***

Name of prospective new member:

How do you know her?

FAMILY:

Relatives in Willard (include maiden name if possible):

ACADEMICS:

College attended (if transfer student):

High School attended:

How would you characterize this woman scholastically?

Scholastic Awards:

ACTIVITIES:

_____ Art _____ Contests _____ Civic
_____ Music _____ Service Clubs _____ Church
_____ Sports _____ Publications _____ Dramatics
_____ Student Government _____ Other _____ HOSA_

Please elaborate on these activities and include outstanding achievements (i.e. offices held, honors received):

Special Interests:

Outstanding Achievements in these areas (Offices, Honoraries):

PERSONALITY:

This young woman:

Is of good character and integrity:

_____ excellent _____ good _____ average _____ poor _____ unknown

Accepts responsibility

_____ excellent _____ good _____ average _____ poor _____ unknown

Has leadership potential

_____ excellent _____ good _____ average _____ poor _____ unknown

Is willing to accept authority and to abide by group decisions

_____ excellent _____ good _____ average _____ poor _____ unknown

Please tell us why this young woman would make an outstanding Willard (giving special attention to each of the four pillars of sisterhood, scholarship, service, and character):

TO WILLARD GIVING REFERENCE: (please check the blanks accordingly)

___ 1) I recommend this young woman for Willard membership

_____ a) I know this young woman personally

_____ b) I do not know this young woman personally but I am basing my recommendation on information from: _____ another Willard, _____ high school faculty, _____ peers of the young woman, _____ a mutual friend, _____ other

___ 2) I do not recommend this young woman for Willard membership based on information received. If further clarification is required, the chapter membership advisor may contact me.

___ 3) I am unable to commit myself to a decision regarding this young woman,

_____ a) Due to limited information received,

_____ b) After contacting all available sources and receiving no information

I appreciate you taking the time to fill out this form. The information you have provided will be a tremendous help during our new member selection process this August.

In gratitude and Willard Love,

Quinn Knispel

Willard Sorority Recruitment Chair



Chapter Eternal

Chapter Eternal is a list of Willard alumnae who have passed away.

We recognize these women at our annual Alumnae Luncheon by reading their name and moving a rose from one vase to another vase in their honor.

Pat Plautz Walker

Class of 1969 - died February 3, 2024

Bev Anderson Grady

Class of 1959 - died January 16, 2024

Jacquelyn Mason Jennings

Class of 1951 - died September 3, 2014

Johna Platz Walker

Class of 1977 - died November 10, 2021

Linda Larson

Class of 1969 - died December 29, 2023

Ruth Schmeckle Bishoff

Class of 1947 - died October 28, 2022

Patty Dutton Kizzier

Class of 1951 - died July 31, 2023

Willard Alumnae Foundation

6735 Leesburg Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68516

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

135 Memories
of 135 years at Willard
Send your photo-memories
to Cindy.Rae.Boyd@gmail.com