Evergreen Sprouts in Seattle

Narrative evaluations, small classes, interdisciplinary studies, emphasis on discussion and writing skills—sounds familiar, eh? Only this time, mix in traditional prep-school aspects, blend with a strong commitment to the arts, and you have the Northwest School of Arts, Humanities, and Environment. Northwest is a new secondary school on Seattle's First Hill, with a first-year enrollment of 230.

Not surprisingly, three of Northwest’s faculty are Evergreen alumni: Charlie Heffernan, Karla Lieberman, and Gary Mozel, all ’75 TESC grads.

“School is my first priority right now, because it has to be,” remarked Lieberman in an interview last month. Her beat at Northwest is the visual arts. “The dedication of the faculty here is one of the ways this place is like Evergreen. I’ve spent most of the last five years doing my own art, but this year the school needs 100% of me for teaching.”

Why does teaching at Northwest consume so much time and energy? Lieberman’s answer, again, rings of Evergreen: “We’re always designing and starting new courses as student interests and needs become clearer. Also, many of us are covering disciplines we haven’t previously taught—this means extra preparation.”

She explained that time is also taken to understand and deal with students individually. This is possible because class sizes range from 8 to 20. As at Evergreen this allows teacher and student to demand a lot of each other. “I remember the way we used to challenge Paul Sparks in seminars at Evergreen. I’ve been an artist-in-residence at several schools, and I know there is more of this real-life questioning going on at Northwest than anywhere else in the Seattle area.

“And the best thing of all,” she concluded, “is that art is a serious area of study here at Northwest. This is not an arts-craftsy program.”

Charlie Heffernan teaches drama and physical education at Northwest. Why was he drawn to the school? “I guess I was homesick for the insecurity and disorganization of Evergreen,” he offered, keeping a straight face for about two seconds.

Heffernan pointed out, “Northwest is not just a rich kids’ school. It draws from all over the socio-economic map—33% of the students are on some type of scholarship, and 15% of our students are minority.

“One way Northwest and Evergreen are similar is that students who try to fake their way through here get confronted. I wasn’t allowed to float at Evergreen, and learned that if you didn’t cut it, you didn’t get credit. I acquired those values at Evergreen, and now I’m using them here. Crediting means something here. I’ve taught at other schools where I don’t think it meant as much.”

Any other similarities between Evergreen and Northwest? “There’s no football team,” he offered, with apparent relief. (What school other than TESC would produce a PE teacher who’s glad his school has no football team?)

Gary Mozel teaches science and history in the Middle School at Northwest. “Face it,” he says, “seventh and eighth graders are America’s great untapped energy source. They’re unguided missiles. Remember at Evergreen how they wanted education to be interesting enough for us to become life-long learners? In a middle-school setting you’re trying to make education interesting enough for the students to become high-school learners!”

Other Evergreen/Northwest similarities? “Ambitious curriculum; a faculty that really cooperates and enjoys working together; and, of course, field trips. Next week I’m taking my seventh graders to Green Lake so they can learn to observe and identify their waterfowl in person, not from a book.”

Mozel thinks his Evergreen years helped prepare him to teach at Northwest? “Definitely, yes—TESC was where I learned to drink coffee.”

Northwest is enjoying an excellent early reputation in educational circles and the media. Enrollment next year is expected to top 300. Part of the school’s success can be attributed to three Evergreen alumni who were preparing for their current jobs, in more ways than one, while attending TESC.

More information on the Northwest School of the Arts, Humanities, and Environment is available by writing to:
1415 Summit Avenue
Seattle, WA 98122

The Northwest School campus in Seattle.
Committee News

Communications
Ralph Smith, Chairperson

The Communications Committee is responsible for Alumni News. We encourage you to send us comments about this and past issues and ideas for content of future issues. We want to provide a vehicle reflecting the spirit of the Alumni Association while addressing the needs of the general membership.

In the next few months, we will be designing an informational brochure about the activities and services of the Alumni Office. We plan to distribute the brochures to various places, such as local businesses and community centers. This will help us to keep in touch with our members and to promote our activities.

Legislative Relations
Doug King, Chairperson
Washington State is facing an acute budget crisis, and nearly all state agencies and programs are being asked to cut current and future expenditures. It is expected that higher education may be hit particularly hard in this process. In considering the budget for the next biennium, the legislature will be listening to a number of voices, and the Legislative Relations Committee of the Alumni Association will coordinate activities to facilitate effective alumni contact with their legislators.

Activities currently being planned include co-hosting with the Evergreen College Community Organization (ECOCO) two receptions with select members of the Legislature. We will also participate in Higher Education Day in late March, where alumni delegations from all six of the four-year state colleges and universities will meet with their legislators.

Those interested in being involved with our legislative efforts should contact Bonnie Marie in the Alumni Office (206) 866-6556. Alums are encouraged to call the toll-free legislative hot line (1-800-560-6000) to voice opinions concerning current and proposed legislation.

Financial Affairs
Janice Wood and Julie Grant, Chairpersons

These committees are involved in the challenging task of building a dues-paying membership. Please see the "DUE IT" article elsewhere in this newsletter for details of our membership campaign.

We will be working on development of immediate and future benefits for Association members (discounts on merchandise and activities, travel and insurance programs, career advising programs and services). We also want to encourage and assist formation of regional alumni chapters. Realizing that many of you are unable to take advantage of the benefits and activities in the Olympia vicinity, we will be identifying ways in which we can lend support to your chapter's efforts to organize alumni functions. We encourage you to send your ideas and suggestions for membership benefits or chapter assistance to Janice or Julie, c/o Alumni Office, TESC, Olympia, WA 98505.

If you'd like an Alumni Association T-shirt (they make great gifts for a fellow alum, too). We're sold out of size Small, but have Mediums, Larges, and Extra Larges still available in both styles (standard style, white on green, and women's French-cut style, green on white) with the logo below.

Unless You're Small... Send me the details as soon as they are finalized. I'm interested in attending the Ste. Micheljefundraising event. If you live outside the Seattle area and wish to organize an event with other Geoducks or Shirlene Anderson (79) at the same time, we can try to coordinate. We'll then carry on with the Reunion. If you're interested in attending the Ste. Michelje fundraising event, please contact the Program Committee for more information.

Send written submissions, photos, graphics and inquiries to the Editor, Alumni News, c/o Alumni Office, LUB 3102, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.

Spring ReView: Special Art Issue Coming

Next issue focuses on the arts. We'll cover campus galleries and sculpture, faculty and student work, and activities of alums.

If you've been reading "AlumNotes," you know Evergreen graduates are involved in a wide spectrum of the arts. Alums are enrolled in graduate programs in musical theatre, dance, education, interior design and visual arts. They're involved in journalism and publishing as writers, editors, reporters, photographers and illustrators. Fine arts and performing arts have attracted sculptors and painters, dancers and musicians. One grad is an independent filmmaker; another is a film editor in San Francisco. Evergreen entrepreneurs operate art studios, a music store, a recording company, and an award-winning stained glass studio.

ReView staff members can cover campus activities, but we need your help for the off-campus features. We'll work from a rather broad definition of the arts, so we'd like to hear from abstrakt painters and technical illustrators, novelists and journalists, pianists and rock musicians.

You can submit a photo and short "bio," or call (206) 866-6126 for an over-the-phone interview.

Imbibe with Us
Puget Sounders, mark your calendars for Saturday, May 2, for a delightful afternoon at Chateau Ste. Michelle winery in Woodinville. At noon, we'll join the Ste. Michelle staff for an in-depth tour of the winemaking facility, followed by a tasting and discussion of the wines they make. We'll then carry on until 3:30 p.m. with a wine and cheese reception.

This event will be a fundraiser for the Association's treasury, and the cost will be between $5 and $10 per person (with a discount for Association members).

If you're interested, call the Alumni Office (206) 866-6556, or fill out and mail the coupon below.

Geoducks for Lunch Bunch
A group of working women who are Evergreen alums is forming to discuss the unique nature of life after Evergreen. We will be meeting frequently during the week and the weekend to plan this event. If you're interested in participating, please contact Bonnie Marie in the Alumni Office. We plan to have a number of events planned by the Program Committee meetings to plan Association activities. Contact Bonnie Marie, Alumni Office, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505 or (206) 866-6556, for the Program Committee meeting schedule.

If you live outside the Seattle area and wish to organize an event with other "Geoducks," let us know and we'll help identify them and get the word out.

AlumNews
AlumNews is the official publication of The Evergreen State College Alumni Association, issued quarterly in conjunction with the Evergreen ReView.

Editor: Ralph Smith Writers: Bonnie Marie, Gary Moore and Ralph Smith Winter, 1981 Volume 3, Number 2

Send written submissions, photos, graphics and inquiries to the Editor, AlumNews, c/o Alumni Office, LUB 3102, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.

We're looking for your support of the Alumni Association and encourage you to become a member by sending us your annual membership dues of $7.50. We want to continue toward our goal of becoming a self-supporting organization and expand the services we provide to the College and to alumni. We need to build a strong dues-paying membership in order to achieve our goal.

The Association's purpose, as stated in its bylaws, is "to provide an avenue for the pursuit of members' mutual interests and to provide support to the program and philosophy of The Evergreen State College." During the past three years, the Association has helped with the recruitment of new students, sponsored an alumni directory, hosted alumni reunions, and sponsored seminars and social events for alumni. Remember, once you are an Association member, you may vote on Association issues and participate in the election of officers and board members. You'll also enjoy reduced rates for Association activities and merchandise. We plan to develop other benefits that will be enjoyed by our members. When the supply lasts, you'll receive a free alumni directory (a $2.00 value).

Money raised from dues is to support Association business and all decisions regarding business are made by the Board of Directors. In other words, dues revenue really is spent for Association-sponsored activities.

So, DUE IT! Join the Alumni Association by mailing your $7.50 dues (or memberships expire on September 30).

We welcome ideas (AND HELP) for any of the events mentioned above, especially the Reunion. If you're interested in participating in the Program Committee meetings to plan Association activities, contact Bonnie Marie, Alumni Office, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505 or (206) 866-6556, for the Program Committee meeting schedule.

I'm interested in attending the Ste. Michelle fundraising event. Send me the details as soon as they are finalized.

Name:
Address:
Phone:

Clip and mail to Alumni Office, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505
Jeffrey Foster ’77, Hanover, N.H., is a graduate student in biology at Dartmouth. He is spending the spring semester in Guatemala and Jamaica as a teaching assistant for their Tropical Biology program.

Elizabeth Keeney ’75, Chey- ne, NE, is a predoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Institution and is working on her Ph.D. in the history of botany in America.

Joe Koczur ’76, Kodiak, AK, is employed by the Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries.

Daniel Tisman ’77, Lubec, ME, has recently received his M.S. degree from Lesley College in Cambridge, MA, and is now an executive on the board of the Expedition Institute, an educational service of the National Audubon Society.

Joan Marie Turner ’79, is a commercial/graphic artist for Advertising Services and Rubick and Funk Graphics in Portland.

Laura Van Dilla, Oakland, CA, was one of four interns selected last fall into a two-year graduate program at UC-Berkeley which will give her a single-subject teaching credential in English and an M.A. in Urban Education. The project is one of ten federally funded pilot programs in the country designed to improve teaching credential programs and education in low-income urban areas.


Patrick Williams ’79, is presently working on a geophysical research vessel in South and Southeast Asian waters for the Lamont-Doherty Geological Observatory of Columbia University. The ship is outfitted to do surveys of sediment and basement structures, and deformation, magnetic and gravity profiles, cores, seafloor photography and heat flow measurements. Patrick’s job is to provide for continuous verification of scientific teams, and to assure a consistent level of data quality.

Curt Wolfsheger ’77, Hoboken, NJ, is working as a research associate with the Newport Demonstration Research Corporation in New York City.

Demian (Fellows) Wood ’74, Sitka, AK, is employed by Seattle-First National Bank of America.

Annie Elyse Aderhold ’76, on October 15, 1980.

Shauna Catherine May ’79, on November 29, 1980.

The Cooper Point Journal (The Paper to you "old timers") staff is conducting a subscription drive and sends the following message to alumni:

“Four dollars will bring the Cooper Point Journal into your front room door for one year; keep in touch with Evergreen from the students’ perspective. Order your subscription today! Send your name, address, and subscription fee of $4.00 to Cooper Point Journal, CAB 325, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA 98505.”
Seawulff Launched—Commissioning Set for March 8

A celebration is in the making. And, what a celebration it will be. Come March, Evergreens, wood boatbuilders, and a wide array of community supporters will gather along the shores of Puget Sound to formally commission the Seawulff, the sleek, handsome vessel that became a collective Evergreen dream nearly a decade ago and a seaworthy reality on December 4.

Now undergoing final testing and finish work after her successful maiden voyage across Budd Inlet, the ship will be floated in a major public ceremony on March 8 at Percival Landing in downtown Olympia. The event will bring six years of design and construction efforts and launch a new era of marine studies and research for Evergreen students and faculty whose predecessors first conceived of such a sailing ship before the college even opened.

Stories on that conception vary, but most agree the idea, first voiced by faculty member Beryl Crowe, was sparked by the college’s proximity to the Long Boatworks, one of the last of its kind on the West Coast and one of the few opportunities in the country to observe three generations of wood boatbuilders working side by side in their craft. Crowe, a notoriously outspoken political activist who became “disgusted with the candle-and-bell-making definition of craftsmanship,” wanted to expose the next generation of Evergreen students to authentic craftsmanship as exemplified by the Olympia boatbuilders. As he met with officials at the college’s faculty planning team in 1970, he proposed building a wood boat named for the Longs as one of the first major academic undertakings. His idea was one of literally hundreds that were bandied about, and it got no further than the faculty discussion tables.

Then came the gasoline crunch of 1974. Crowe and faculty member Pete Sinclair began to refine the original suggestion. They reshaped the dream into more than a study of boat craftsmanship, making it an investigation into the feasibility of building a sailing fishing boat, one that would be economically maintained and operated without reliance on fossil fuels.

This time the idea bore academic fruit—a three-quarter, full-time Coordinated Studies program called Marine Sciences and Crafts. Taught by four faculty members (Sinclair, Crowe, Larry Eickstaedt and Byron Youtz), the program began in September 1974 with the added expertise during Fall Quarter of marine historian Gordon Newell of Olympia. Winter Quarter Seattle yacht designer Robert Perry came aboard to head design and drafting efforts, and by spring, Hank Long, the second-generation craftsman, was directing the first steps of hull construction at his shop on Olympia’s westside.

The shop, recalls Sinclair, “was a living marine museum,” complete with old-fashioned tools, an array of wood boats, a 1931 Ford Model A “woody” station wagon, a 1927 motorcycle, historic photographs, and lots of other evidence of boats from the past.

Enthusiasm for their experiences at the boatworks—and for their research into marine history—inspired students that spring to organize and sponsor a two-day, “Fishing Under Sail Symposium” that attracted commercial fishermen, boat designers and builders, marine reporters and editors, professors and students from throughout the country to explore the possibilities of relying on wind-powered fishing craft. A tour of the boatworks and the infant “Evergreen 38” completed the symposium May 9, 1975.

Three weeks later students were just finishing up the top inside structures of the hull when a spark from the boiler ignited sawdust and wood shavings. Fire engulfed the all-wood structure, taking with it all of Long’s historic treasures—and the Evergreen dream.

“Students refused from the beginning to accept it,” Sinclair remembers. “They immediately posted a sign declaring ‘she will rise again’ and insisted the dream was not lost, only delayed.”

Community support made it possible for the dream to become real. As Sinclair recalls, “We all wanted to build her again, but we just didn’t know how or where to get the money.” Then Olympia realtor, Doris St. Louis, faculty member Niels Skov, and an industrious team of fund raisers went to work. In one festive evening they sponsored a series of dinner parties that drew more than 300 people and breathed new life into the ‘38 project.

By Fall Quarter, 1976, a new Marine Sciences and Crafts program was underway, this one taught by Sinclair, Crowe and Jim Guelden and dedicated not only to construction of the boat but to a rigorous academic program that, says Sinclair, “ended up being tougher than the first year of law school.”

I think we overdid it a bit,” he admits. “We required students to read more than 4,000 pages of text and gave them little time to think.”

But, within a quarter, they were at work on a new hull, following Perry’s original design and gathering additional community support for the project. One contributor was Woodinville boat builder Jerry Hustead, who helped raise more than $8,000.

Tacoma boatbuilding instructor John Lumley, who contacts enabled the college to secure some 3,000 board feet of prime Port Orchard cedar, which says Sinclair “in turn worked hard to come by.”

The work, done on campus behind the laboratory buildings, progressed much faster than initial efforts “both because we now had some experience and because we had such a tremendous commitment from the students,” explains Sinclair. “It was really amazing... they worked full-time, practically around the clock, and could have achieved even more if we hadn’t so often had to take time to scrounge for equipment and/or materials.”

As the boat inched over to completion, faculty member Robert Fassett assumed direction of the project, aided by retired mechanical engineer Don Fassett, an Olympia volunteer who this fall was formally hired as the ship’s master builder, charged with completing her by the end of Fall Quarter.

The first major step toward that completion was achieved on a cold and windy December morning when a huge crane arrived on campus, dismantled the shed under which the ship was built, and gently swung the 13-ton craft onto a low-boy truck built especially for hauling boats and donated for the trip by Associated Boat Transport, Inc., of Seattle. Escorted from campus by two security cars and three dozen “close friends,” the ship was delivered to the West Bay Marina, which was to become her permanent mooring, and loaded onto slings.

Armed with the traditional bottle of champagne, Evergreen alumnus Julia Rabinowitz, one of the original boat builders, christened the vessel, named for Reid Wulff, who worked on the ship before his accidental death in 1978. Asking that “God bless this ship, all who built her and all who sail on her,” Rabinowitz broke the bottle over the bow, then joyfully joined the crowd in celebrating as the Seawulff slipped smoothly and triumphantly into Puget Sound.

Throughout the month of January, Fassett, Rabinowitz and a small dedicated crew continued finish work on the ship, which undertook trial runs across Budd Inlet to her temporary mooring at Boeing Harbor, and then to Seattle, where her 35-horsepower, two-cylinder Saab marine engine checked out perfectly.

On campus, college officials continued to work to gather the last remaining materials to prepare for the commissioning. Sails, safety equipment and what Fassett calls “a few other very minor accessories” were secured and in place by the March commissioning.

“We hope that, Sinclair hopes the Seawulff will be put to use as a floating classroom, no only for marine studies, but a whole range of academic disciplines which might be better explored aboard ship. As Sinclair, quoting Robert Frost, notes, “We have ideas yet we have not tried” for using the Evergreen dream that has finally come true.