

# Alumnus Keeps University History Alive

espite the fact that his father was a Washington and Lee history professor, Bill Bean Jr. '51 graduated from the University with a degree in politics. He never imagined he'd take up the pen; however, following a successful career in the insurance industry, Bean has become a writer of sorts himself.

Several years ago, Bean realized his father's book on a Civil War company formed by Washington College students was out of print and in demand. Published in 1964, *The Liberty Hall Volunteers: Stonewall's College Boys* chronicles the Stonewall Brigade, a Confederate company that was part of the 4th Virginia Infantry and one of five regiments led by Gen. Thomas J. "Stonewall" Jackson.

Bean was encouraged by Michael Lynn, executive director of the Stonewall Jackson House, to include more information and photographs in the updated version. The result complements the senior Bean's work and includes an introduction by Robert K. Krick, a well-known and respected authority on the Civil War.

"I never imagined I would take on this type of project," said Bean, who resides at Bean's River Bottom near Lexington. "I'm no writer, but it was important to me that Dad's story live on. I've enjoyed working on the book, and I find it funny that when Dad was writing, he'd have papers everywhere; now I'm the one with piles of papers."

Lynn has been impressed not only with Bean's determination in helping his father tell the Liberty Hall Volunteers' story, but also with his support of the Stonewall Jackson House. Bean funded the reprinting of 1,000 copies of the book in 2005 and 1,000 copies of an enhanced version in 2007, and he has donated all profits from its sale to the Lexington museum.

Bean's generosity doesn't end there. In 2007, he made a bequest to Washington and Lee in memory of his father, who taught at the University from 1922 to 1963. The William Gleason Bean Endowment Fund will provide support to Lee Chapel & Museum, especially the maintenance and preservation of the Liberty Hall Volunteers tablet in the chapel's entrance. Income from the fund also will support the sale of his father's books on the Liberty Hall Volunteers and *Stonewall's Man: Sandie Pendleton*. Published in 1959, the latter book focuses on Washington College alumnus Alexander Swift Pendleton, a member of the class of 1857 who served as Jackson and Gen. Jubal Early's chief of staff during the Civil War.

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Bill Bean Jr. '51 has made a bequest to support Lee Chapel & Museum, specifically to maintain and preserve the Liberty Hall Volunteers tablet in the Chapel's entrance.

## Maximize the Value of Your Gift

eciding how to make a charitable gift to an organization like Washington and Lee University is something that is worth careful consideration, and spending time thinking about what to give may actually enable you to increase the value of your gift. For example, non-cash assets can make welcome gifts while providing extra tax savings not available from gifts of cash.

Assets such as stocks and bonds, shares in mutual funds, or a home, farm or other property can be excellent choices. These and other resources can be used to make a gift that enhances the value of your contribution without costing any more than a gift of cash.

#### **Stretch Your Gift Dollars**

Giving non-cash assets can be attractive because of the favorable income tax treatment such gifts may bring. A gift of property that has increased in value and has been owned for more than one year generally brings the greatest tax savings. Giving such property also conserves cash for other uses.

#### **Provide Income**

You may be at a point in life where your primary financial concern is assuring regular income rather than building additional savings. Carefully structured gifts of property can help you accomplish this goal, as well.

For example, if you have assets that have grown in value but produce little or no income, you may wish to consider gift planning tools that allow you to make a charitable contribution, enjoy immediate and future tax savings, and also increase your spendable income.

Depending on your age and other factors, the plan you select

may feature fixed payments that never decrease. Alternatively, you can choose from plans that provide an income each year based on the actual earnings of the donated assets or a fixed percentage of the value of the assets. In either case, a portion of your payments may be free of income tax or be taxed at more favorable capital gains tax rates. Payments can last for life or for another period of time you determine. These plans allow you to make a contribution and receive income during your lifetime while knowing the remaining interest will go to your designated beneficiary in the future to achieve your charitable intentions.

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## Benefits at a Glance

Carefully choosing the right asset to give means you can support an organization like Washington and Lee while you also:

- Increase your income tax savings
- Save capital gains tax
- Make larger gifts at no additional cost
- Create new sources of tax-favored income
- Reduce the impact of estate taxes
- Achieve a charitable purpose

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"The connections with people in *The Liberty Hall Volunteers* are an important piece of Jackson history," said Lynn. "The Liberty Hall Volunteers were the people he knew, and they fought under him. They are the link between the pre-war Jackson and the wartime Jackson."

For Bean, the project has become a labor of love, and while it is arduous, he has enjoyed time spent collecting photographs and researching the people who came from Lexington and fought valiantly under Jackson.

Of the 181 men who served in the Liberty Hall Volunteers company during the war, only eight remained on duty to surrender at Appomattox. Twenty-seven were killed or mortally wounded, and 16 died of disease. Most of the survivors were wounded at least once, and 56 were taken prisoner.

Having met these men through their stories in his father's book

and by painstakingly uncovering information and photographs for the reprinting, Bean found his gift of preserving the tablet in their memory in Lee Chapel fitting. The memorial tablet was dedicated in 1910 by Washington and Lee President George H. Denny, who encouraged the senior Bean to capture the soldiers' history.

"Not only were these men connected to the University but also to this area, and they are a part of so many local families and an important chapter in our history," said Bean, who has continued his research for future updates to the book. "When it came to giving to Washington and Lee, this was a project that was right up my alley."

To acquire a copy of *The Liberty Hall Volunteers: Stonewall's College Boys*, contact the Lee Chapel & Museum, 540-458-8095; visit the Washington and Lee University Store; or contact the Stonewall Jackson House, *www.stonewalljackson.org*.



# Revitalized Museum Showcases Namesakes' Contributions to Education

focal point of the University, Lee Chapel creates memories for everyone who steps through its doors. For students, faculty and alumni, it's a gathering point for important Washington and Lee functions; for couples, it's the place where their marriage begins; and for historians and tourists, it's a site they can visit to experience the University's eleventh president and legendary leader.

Thanks to a \$1 million revitalization of the Lee Chapel & Museum, this special place takes on a new role of bringing together the stories of the University's namesakes in a compelling exhibit entitled "Not Unmindful of the Future: Educating to Build and Rebuild a Nation."

"I think we have one of the greatest stories to tell in American history," said Linda Donald, manager of Lee Chapel & Museum. "Until this exhibit, that story has remained untold, and former Director Pat Hobbs and the team that helped bring this exhibition to fruition have done a marvelous job of showcasing the importance these men placed on education, as well as their connections to one another. In our new exhibition, the rich history of the University is used to illustrate our country's major educational trends."

The museum reopened last October and features an enhanced display of the office Lee occupied from 1868 to 1870. Lighted text panels provide detail on the objects in the office collection and information about Lee's presidency. The main gallery of the museum showcases the restored orrery, or planetarium, that was purchased by the University when Lee was president and used by the science department until 1995. The exhibit portrays Washington's vision of education in a new nation and Lee's efforts to rebuild a United States damaged by war.

Now that the campaign for the Lee Chapel & Museum has met its initial goal of funding the revitalization, its focus is on growing the endowment to \$5 million to preserve the past and ensure that future generations will know about the University's history.

A changing exhibition space that opens this spring will serve as a learning lab for Washington and Lee students. Under the direction of the department of University collections, students will help research and design changing exhibits. In addition, it will provide a place to display more of the University's treasures and share items from other collections.

"This educational arm of the Lee Chapel & Museum will let University students take on the roles of curator, educator, exhibit designer and marketer," said Hobbs, now curator and associate director of University collections. "A robust endowment will give us the chance to expand the educational opportunities we provide visitors and will further support the University's mission of teaching and learning. We must make sure future generations know about the many contributions of George Washington and Robert E. Lee."

To learn more about how to support the Lee Chapel endowment through a bequest, contact Hank Humphreys, director of planned giving, at 540-458-8421 or by e-mail at *ahumphreys@wlu.edu*.

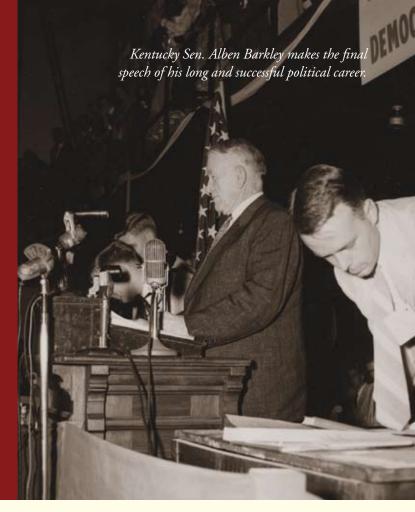
### Non Incautus Futuri

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# 1956 Event Looms Large in Mock Convention History

Moseley Braun and Max Cleland were unfamiliar names to most students before they spoke at January's Mock Convention, many had heard the legendary story of Kentucky Sen. Alben Barkley's untimely death at the 1956 event. One alumnus in the audience of the centennial 2008 convention was more than familiar with the famous incident—he witnessed it firsthand, and it's an experience he never will forget.



"As the secretary of W&L's Mock Convention, I was one of several students assigned to sit on the platform set up in Doremus Gymnasium," said J. Hardin Marion '55, '58L. "Barkley did not disappoint us with his keynote address. He let loose with a rip-snorting, stem-winding, no-holds-barred speech, giving the Republicans unshirted hell and praising the Democrats for every piece of constructive and progressive legislation enacted throughout the 20th century."

Marion recalled that Barkley used no notes or script. While he was the freshman senator from Kentucky, he was quite a seasoned politician who had served a previous senatorial term and as Harry Truman's vice president from 1949 to 1953. Barkley's fame helped fill the gymnasium with students and townspeople alike who suffered the oppression of a 90-degree April afternoon to hear him speak.

"At one point, responding to a bell or gong rung by some student delegate in the audience, Barkley had interjected, 'This old fire horse hears the bell,' and then plunged right back into his remarks," said Marion. "Shortly after that, seemingly near the end of what he had to say, he paused and uttered the last words he was ever to speak.

"'I would rather be a servant in the house of the Lord than sit in the seats of the mighty,' " recalled Marion. "With that, he bowed his head, almost as if in prayer, one arm swept across the podium, scattering radio microphones, and he collapsed onto the floor of the platform right behind my chair."

Marion then rushed to his side and put his arm under Barkley's head, holding the senator as he died. No one knew quite what to do, so Marion suggested to Chairman Carl Swanson '54, '57L that he ask for a doctor and for everyone in the gymnasium to stand for a minute of silent prayer.

The memory of that day is as vivid to Sam Syme '56 as it is to Marion. Then secretary of the student body, Syme knew him because the senator was a close friend of his grandfather.

"There wasn't a lot of panic among the crowd; we were all stunned to silence," said Syme. "I've always assumed Sen. Barkley was dead by the time he hit the floor. Knowing the man the little I did, I can't think of a better way for him to go."

Despite a weeklong break, the 1956 Mock Convention reconvened at the insistence of Barkley's widow who said her husband would have wanted the event to continue. The students correctly picked Adlai Stevenson on the fifth ballot, and Barkley's death would go down in convention history.

For Marion, memories of past conventions mingle with the present. A resident of Lexington, he attended the 2008 convention and was quite impressed with the lineup of speakers, the thoroughness of the students' research and preparation, and the realistic, convention-like atmosphere of Warner Center. However, one of the highlights of the weekend for him took place at an off-campus reception for local members and friends of the Democratic Party.

"On the Friday afternoon of the convention, I was invited to a gathering at the home of David Cox, which included about 150 people," said Marion. "There in one room were Jesse Jackson, Max Cleland and Charlie Wilson, three of the Mock Convention speakers. They each spoke, and being there made the convention more memorable for me."