

# DALKEITH REMEMBERED

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1      NOVEMBER 2009

## WELCOME TO THE WIS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER!

Welcome to the first newsletter for alumni and friends of the Wisconsin in Scotland program. It is our goal, with this newsletter, to keep all informed of new developments with the Wisconsin in Scotland program. We envision a future of rekindled and strengthened relationships between program alumni and friends and the future direction and continued improvement of the program.

Whether you participated in the program last semester or two decades ago, your memories of the house, and your experiences there, are no doubt fresh in your mind. We hope that this

newsletter helps you relive those experiences and encourages you to continue sharing them with those around you.

Many alumni have described their semester abroad as the most transformative experience of their college careers. We hear countless reports of students who have studied abroad and returned a changed person; some changed their majors or transferred schools. Many more students were re-fueled by the experience, they confirmed they were on the right educational path and returned with a renewed interest in their degree. Still more students returned and signed on for

even more study abroad opportunities.

In recent years, there have been many changes to the Wisconsin in Scotland program. With these changes there has been a great deal of uncertainty circulating among many. With the development of this newsletter, we hope to keep all alumni in the loop of changes and equipped with reliable information.

If you would like to submit any information to the newsletter or have any questions you feel should be addressed in the newsletter please contact us at 715-425-3238 or by e-mail at: [kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu)

-The WIS Administrative Team

### WHO'S WHO IN THE WIS OFFICE:

- **Brent Greene:** *WIS Program Director / Director of International Education Programs at UWRF*
- **Flossie Hughes:** *WIS Administrative Assistant*
- **Kelsey McLean:** *WIS Program Coordinator*
- **Patty Watters:** *Resident Director of Operations at Dalkeith House*



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## PATTY'S PALACE; MEET THE RESIDENT DIRECTOR:



Patty Watters balances a lot of different responsibilities in her role as Resident Director of Operations at Dalkeith House.

Seeing as this is the introductory Alumni Newsletter, it is only fitting that I introduce myself. Patty Watters is the name, studying abroad is my game! As the current Resident Director of Operations, I'm the only fulltime resident staff member and I oversee all operations of the program and help participants to get the most out of their short time in the most beautiful country in Britain. It was while earning my Bachelor's

degree from St. Cloud State University that I realized how transformative a study abroad experience could be after spending a semester in San Jose, Costa Rica. After college, I found that I enjoyed working with university students so I obtained a Master's degree from Bowling Green State University in College Student Personnel - essentially I studied how to maximize students' learning and development during the critical

college years - and I love it! I've been very fortunate to be able to combine my passion for study abroad with my love of working with university students; in Scotland to boot!

I take great pleasure in meeting program alums who are returning to the house for a visit. Please know that you can contact me to make reservations to stay at the house. As the program grows, the house changes and provides a home away from home for even more students. I hope to see you soon!

*If you are interested in returning to Dalkeith, please contact Patty at [patty.watters@gmail.com](mailto:patty.watters@gmail.com) to check availability and reserve a room.*

“AS THE PROGRAM GROWS, THE HOUSE CHANGES AND PROVIDES A HOME AWAY FROM HOME FOR EVEN MORE STUDENTS.”



## THE STEWART FAMILY: HOST TO HUNDREDS



Kristin DeLoy, a spring 2009 student, having fun with her host family.

Many of you were likely saddened to hear that Bob Stewart, a long-time trustee of the WIS program, recently passed away. Yet, as we reflect upon Bob's life it becomes very clear that Bob's legacy will continue to live on with the Wisconsin in Scotland program.

It was many years ago, when Bob was a motor coach driver and owner, transporting WIS students to and from the airport, that he first suggested the idea of a host family program for students. From that point, Bob and his wife, Sheila, went on to establish the host family program that has gone on to positively impact so many students' experiences while studying

abroad. Bob felt that providing students with host families would foster deeper ties between students and the community and cultivate cultural understanding.

Bob's vision has certainly come to fruition with countless students' experiences abroad being immeasurably enriched by their host family experiences. Hundreds of students have been directly touched by the tireless and compassionate hosting of Bob and Sheila themselves.

Thank you to the Stewart's for welcoming all of us into their family and, in doing so, creating priceless memories for so many of us.

## A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Dear Wisconsin In Scotland  
Alumni and Friends,

As we approach nearly a quarter of a century of a highly successful Wisconsin In Scotland program it is exciting to report that the program is healthy and well-positioned to launch into its second quarter century. Over 3,000 students have had an incredible, life-altering international immersion experience at Dalkeith Palace. The program continues to provide much of the same experiences and support as it has since the first group of WIS students arrived at Dalkeith House in the fall of 1986 but many changes have also taken place. As the maxim goes, the only thing that is constant is change. As some schools transition out (most recently Eau Claire and La Crosse) new schools are transitioning in (Oshkosh, Whitewater, UW Colleges, Normandale Community College, Parkside –

with more in the wings). This broad base of educational institution support bodes very well for a healthy program and a bright future.

“THE ONLY CONSTANT IS  
CHANGE, CONTINUING  
CHANGE, INEVITABLE  
CHANGE, THAT IS THE  
DOMINANT FACTOR IN  
SOCIETY TODAY. NO  
SENSIBLE DECISION CAN BE  
MADE ANY LONGER  
WITHOUT TAKING INTO  
ACCOUNT NOT ONLY THE  
WORLD AS IT IS, BUT THE  
WORLD AS IT WILL BE.”  
— ISAAC ASIMOV

We are gently migrating the program name, Wisconsin In Scotland to Experience Scotland to allow new and potential future member schools to better fit the name with their institution. It will be the same, wonderful program that you experienced - just an

expanded name, which truly defines what it's all about - experiencing Scotland. I'm sure for many, it will always remain Wisconsin In Scotland – fair enough!

We still keep a few guest rooms available for WIS alumni and friends. If you have a chance to return to Scotland we would love to have you take a stroll down memory lane and stay with us at Dalkeith Palace at least one more time. I look forward to seeing many of you at the upcoming twenty-five year WIS reunion.

Sincerely,

Brent Greene

Director, Wisconsin In Scotland

## WISCONSIN IN SCOTLAND SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In today's dismal economic climate it is no surprise that more and more students are finding finances to be a major obstacle to studying abroad. Fortunately, the WIS program is competitively priced and one of the most affordable study abroad options for students. Nonetheless, we would like to do more to address the financial needs of students and thus would like to

rebuild and increase our scholarship fund for Wisconsin in Scotland participants. Our vision is to be able to provide a \$500 scholarship each semester to one student from each partner institution...that's \$3,000 in scholarships issued each semester! With over 3,000 WIS alumni, a donation of just \$2 per year per alum would ensure the sustainability of this

scholarship fund and aid in helping make study abroad a reality for more students. A donation of even more per year would allow us to provide even more scholarships.

Please consider a donation to the WIS Scholarship Fund. If interested please contact Kelsey McLean at [kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu) for more information.



Help make international study  
a reality for more students

WISCONSIN IN SCOTLAND ALUMNI  
AND FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[HTTP://WWW.UWRF.EDU/WIS](http://www.uwrf.edu/wis)

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JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!

WISCONSIN IN SCOTLAND—OUR  
SECOND HOME

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GO BEYOND YOUR BORDERS...  
EXPERIENCE SCOTLAND!

## FLOSSIE HUGHES IS RETIRING!

On December 18, 2009 an era will end with the retirement of Flossie Hughes. Flossie has served tirelessly as the Wisconsin in Scotland Administrative Assistant since 1992. Flossie has been instrumental in making sure students have a wonderful time in Scotland. Flossie's work has happened primarily 'behind the scenes', making sure that all aspects of the program are functioning and well-maintained. However, Flossie's work hasn't been all about processing student applications and setting course schedules. Countless apprehensive students (and faculty!) have been reassured, calmed and encouraged by Flossie through the years. Her enthusiasm and dedication to the program are undeniable and her compassionate nature have made her a vital part of the success of Wisconsin in Scotland through the years.



*For all you have done, for all of us,  
Thank you, Flossie!*

Please join us for a reception celebrating  
Flossie's retirement:

Friday, December 11th  
1:00-4:00 (short program at 2:30)  
Global Connections, 102 Hagestad Hall  
UW-River Falls

If you would like to send your own note of thanks to Flossie, please do so by December 18th!

Flossie Hughes  
Wisconsin in Scotland  
University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
102 Hagestad Hall  
410 South Third Street  
River Falls, WI 54022

## GET READY TO PARTY: 25 YEARS IS COMING UP!

It's hard to believe that we are fast approaching the 25th year of the Wisconsin in Scotland program. The program has come a long way since that first group of 'pioneers' in the fall of 1986 which is why we need to celebrate!

**So mark your calendars for Saturday, August 13th, 2011 for WIS' 25 Year Reunion in River Falls, Wisconsin.**

However, before we actually get to the point of having a reunion we will need a bit of help from everyone. If you are interested in helping serve on a Reunion Planning

Committee please e-mail Kelsey McLean at [kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu).

Additionally, we are looking to update our alumni contact list so that we are able to distribute the vast majority of reunion information via electronic means. If you could please provide the most up to date contact information for yourself it would be greatly appreciated. Please submit the information in the following format:

Name  
Maiden name (if applicable)  
School  
Semester, Year

E-mail Address  
Mailing Address

Additionally, if you have the contact information for friends that participated in the program with you, please submit this information as well. This information can be e-mailed to [kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu](mailto:kelsey.mclean@uwrf.edu).

Can't wait to see you in a year and a half for the big 25th...it will be an event not to be missed!



Participants in the WIS 20 Year Reunion carry the Wisconsin in Scotland banner at the Scottish Festival's March of the Clans.