



Shimer

The Great Books College of Chicago

Welcome to the March 2008 e-newsletter!

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Quick Notes

- **NEW!! Take advantage of reduced prices on Reunion Tickets by registering before May 15.** See the full story below.
- Stemless Shimerware? Stylish Hoodies? Shimer Notepads? Quirky quotes on sweatshop-free tees? Collect them all (and support Shimer) at the [Shimer Bookstore](#).
- The winners of the Second Annual Michel de Montaigne Scholarship Competition have been selected from 39 entrants hailing from 20 states. Two full-tuition scholarships, based on both essay responses and discussion performance, were awarded to Joe Bradshaw from Rochester, NY and Marielle Heidebrink from Grosse Pointe Woods, MI. Two half-tuition scholarships were awarded to Jill Leslie of Chicago, IL and Erik Boneff of Royal Oak, MI.

Reunion 2008: Reduced Prices for Early Registration

Please join your fellow alumni and friends at the 2008 Shimer College Alumni Reunion, June 13-15, at Shimer's new home at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago.

The weekend will include unstructured social time to gather with friends along with several pre-planned activities. On Saturday, enjoy morning and afternoon classes led by present and former Shimer faculty, including, for example, Don Moon on Einstein's Special Theory, Barbara Stone on Kafka's Metamorphosis, and Ann Dolinko on Feminism, Foucault and Freedom. Saturday evening features a sit-down dinner with keynote speaker Dr. Shirley Conibear (68), an evening coffeehouse with folksinger Rebecca Armstrong, and a dance, bowling, and billiards social in the adjoining private rooms. On Friday, join us for social time, tours of the campus, a buffet dinner, and optional outings to an Architecture boat cruise and Second City, Chicago's world-class comedy improv venue. On Sunday, we'll have a champagne brunch and optional faculty-led outings to the Chicago Art Institute or a Chicago White Sox game.



Your children, the next generation of Shimerians, are also invited to experience Shimer in Chicago. In tandem with many of the activities on Saturday, we will host age-appropriate programming for Young Shimerians. On Saturday evening we'll provide a child-friendly dinner with fun activities, or for the same youth ticket price, older children may attend the adult dinner.

For registrations before May 15, we have lowered the basic Saturday ticket to \$150; add \$25 to attend Friday or Sunday activities or \$45 for both days. The



שבת, אם יש לך שאלות או שאתה רוצה לדעת יותר על שבת או על פעילות שבת, אנא פנה אלינו. The basic Saturday youth ticket is \$40; if your child will attend the Sunday or Friday meal add \$20 for each. Visit the [Reunion website](#) for a detailed schedule, youth programming, hotel, and registration information.

Thank you for your extraordinary support of the College in this transitional year. Please join other Shimer friends and alums in witnessing how Shimer College is beginning to thrive as the Great Books College of Chicago. Celebrate with us; we would be honored to be your hosts.

Farewell, Old Friend: Remembering Diane Nedved

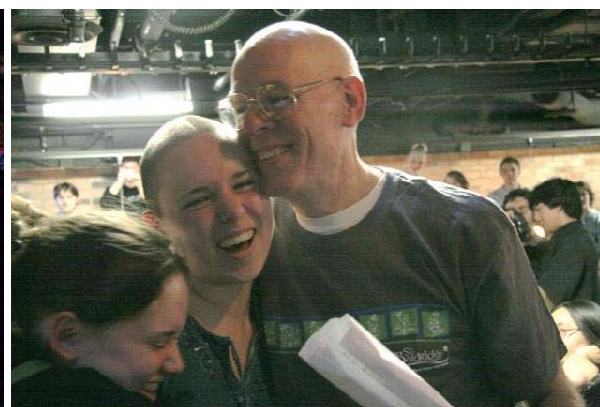
Diane Nedved, a 1954 alumna of Shimer College and a member of the Shimer Board of Trustees for the past several years, passed away on Tuesday, February 26. Her death is a great loss to the Shimer community. Diane was an unflagging booster of the College, one who backed up her enthusiasm with extraordinary financial generosity. She also gave a lot of time and effort to her work on the Board, serving on many Board committees and helping out in numerous other ways.

Upon hearing of Diances death, former Shimer President Bill Rice sent a eulogy in which he wrote, The qualities of fanaticism and loyalty, generously mixed with the rigor, intimacy, and range of a Shimer education, make for exceptional human beings, and Diane was a brilliantly minted example. She would often say: Shimer saved my life. In the early 1950s, she was a colossally bored, intellectually voracious, verging on out-of-control early teenager whose mother had no idea what to do with her and was deeply, deeply worried. Then her mother learned about the Early Entrant Program at Shimer. When Diane told this story to young people, it was interesting to watch them bonding with her with their eyes. One was moved almost to tears, as Diane occasionally was. Almost any Shimerian, young or old, who met Diane can relate to those comments.

Diane, who lived near Pittsburgh, was an active 71 years of age at the time of her death. She was a lawyer (John Marshall Law School, Class of 1957) and a certified public accountant. She served with distinction on many non-profit boards, but Shimer was closest to her heart. Those of us who knew her will miss her very, very much.

Thoughts from a Newly Shorn Head

by Meg Nelson, Class of 2011



Its fairly cold up top.

My father was my initial inspiration. Hed shaved his head with the St. Baldricks organization for two years already. The idea was to see how much people would pay you to shave your head, as a kind of solidarity with chemotherapy patients, because the money would go to helping kids with cancer. I thought, since I have a lot more hair, people should pay a lot more to see it go, right? Maybe Id be able to raise more money for kids that way.

I admit that I didnt go much beyond that. But once I signed up formally to place my locks on the line, my perspective changed.

I had no idea how many people I know have been affected by cancer. I talked to relatives and friends who shared their stories of people they knew, or even themselves, who had suffered through the disease and come out successfully or sometimes not. My awareness grew with others. Many people had never heard of the St. Baldricks