The Beat Goes On
Drums rolled, trumpets blared, the band struck up "Miss Peabody," and we kicked off our year-long 35th anniversary celebration at Reunion 2009. And that was just the Saturday morning Parade! At Friday night's Welcome Dinner, two of the WCAA trustees emeritae, who were guests of honor along with former faculty, recalled the charter days of the association. At lunch on Saturday, the Meily Society inducted the 50-year class of '59 and later Dean Phyllis Hoyt was on hand to participate in the discussion of her memoir, Where the Peonies Bloomed. Newly renovated Presser Hall was the scene of the evening reception, and the party moved to the elegant Heritage Room at the Shriver Center for the Celebratory Banquet, featuring class toasts and awards. Sunday morning's Closing Gathering was highlighted by the inspirational address of Mary Ellen Thomas Forte '59 and a concert performed on the beautifully restored Kumler pipe organ.

Honoring the 35th Anniversary of the WCAA and in tribute to our Western faculty, the Reunion Gift will create a Western College Professorship. The award will be made to outstanding faculty working in the areas of women's history and/or public history and/or the history of social justice in Miami's Department of History. We are well on our way to our ambitious goal of $350,000 and are counting on even more support from our loyal past donors and inspired first-time donors. Please add your gift today!

Thirty-five Years and Counting
We'll wind down our year-long anniversary celebration with a special invitation to all our indispensable Bulletin Class Reps to return and be recognized for their years as the primary keepers of those all-important ties that bind. And, while all Reunions are all-Western, special attention will be paid anniversary classes ending in 0 and 5 -- most especially the 50-year class of 1960 and the 25-year class of 1985. Clearly, The Beat Goes On! -- let's all Westerners keep it going at Reunion 2010, June 18-20!

Gift Shop Sale
Look for drastic reductions on selected Gift Shop offerings.

Upcoming Events
Oct 9-11 2009 Freedom Summer National Conference & 45th Reunion, open to the public. (The WCAA is a co-sponsor of this event.)