

9-1-2011

Furman Alumni News

Furman University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine>

Recommended Citation

University, Furman (2011) "Furman Alumni News," *Furman Magazine*: Vol. 54 : Iss. 3 , Article 18.
Available at: <https://scholarexchange.furman.edu/furman-magazine/vol54/iss3/18>

This Regular Feature is made available online by Journals, part of the Furman University Scholar Exchange (FUSE). It has been accepted for inclusion in Furman Magazine by an authorized FUSE administrator. For terms of use, please refer to the [FUSE Institutional Repository Guidelines](#). For more information, please contact scholarexchange@furman.edu.



BECOME PART OF THE FURMAN ADMISSION NETWORK

LAST FALL President Rod Smolla presented the Office of Admission with a compelling challenge: create an international army of volunteers to help recruit the university's future students.

Meeting this challenge was no small undertaking. But when we put out the call, more than 700 eager volunteers answered, and the Furman Admission Network — or FAN — was running full tilt.

FAN consists of Furman alumni and parents who donate their time and talents to connect with prospective students through interviews, college fairs, special events and telephone campaigns. In short, FAN members serve as ambassadors for Furman in their communities — and as extra eyes and ears for the Admission Office.

With the help of these volunteers, Furman was able — for the first time — to offer each applicant for the Class of 2015 the opportunity to have a personal interview with a Furman representative. Thanks to FAN members' flexibility and support, nearly 1,000 applicants benefited from an interview. For a program in its inaugural stages, this was a fantastic outcome.

The development of the FAN initiative supports Admission's growing efforts to personalize the recruiting process, develop a more holistic review of applicants, and boost the diversity of the applicant pool. In exchange, prospective students — many of whom live far from Greenville and are unable to visit the campus — can still enjoy a conversation with a card-carrying member of the Furman family.



FAN interviews are usually conducted in person, in an informal setting. They can also be done over the phone or via Skype. Following each interview, FAN members complete an online evaluation that becomes part of the student's application file.

For the Admission Committee, FAN evaluations provide the kind of insight into a student's character and personality that is not always apparent from a paper application. For the students, the one-on-one visits breathe life into the stories, pictures and facts on Furman brochures and foster a personal connection with the university. The interviews also offer the students the chance to speak from the heart about their interests, dreams and aspirations.

It's a powerful recruiting tool. Indeed, a number of students in the Class of 2015 said that their FAN interviewer made the difference in their decision to enroll at Furman.

Among the shining first-year stars of the FAN program were parent Chris Henson of Columbus, Ga., who interviewed seven students; Richard Bowers '64, who traveled more than two hours from his home in Corpus Christi, Texas, to conduct an interview with an international applicant; and Jessie Phillips '05, who conducted four interviews in China, where she was attending graduate school.

The FAN program is already one of the most exciting developments at Furman in recent years, and the Admission staff is grateful for the interest and support demonstrated by Furman's alumni and parents. In return, FAN members get an inside look into the university's recruiting process, connect with alumni and parents and, most importantly, play a key role in molding Furman's future.

But FAN can use more help.

Whether you're young or old, city-dweller or suburban homeowner, CEO or stay-at-home-mom, FAN needs you. In the coming years interview requests are expected to skyrocket, so enthusiastic interviewers are needed around the globe. The Office of Admission can also use additional help with college fairs, special events and telephone campaigns.

To apply, visit <http://community.furman.edu> and sign up for the Furman Engage Community. On the right side of the Engage Community home page, a box that says "Want to be a FAN Member?" will appear. Click "Yes!" and follow the prompts.

Even if you can't commit to joining FAN at this time, we hope that all alumni and parents consider themselves ambassadors for Furman. In that vein we encourage you to take advantage of any and every opportunity to talk with prospective students about the university.

As Alumni Association president Chris Brown '89 wrote in the summer *Furman* magazine, "All of us can support Furman's recruitment efforts because we are some of the best recruiters Furman could have. By sharing our stories with prospective students and their parents, we can personalize the Furman experience and provide insight and understanding they can't get from anyone else."

— KRISTEN FISCHER ANTHONY

The author, a 2005 graduate, joined the Admission staff in 2010 as manager of the FAN program. Contact her at kristen.anthony@furman.edu.

CLASS NOTES, FALL 2011

54

John Cothran of Greenville has received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Coordinating Council. John has been a part of CBF since its inception in 1990. He was on the organization's interim steering committee, chaired the finance committee, and was a member of the first global missions ministry group. He has spent several terms on the board of the CBF Foundation and served as the group's moderator.

68

Jim Childress is chief executive officer and chairman of Genesis Homes, a non-profit that works to provide affordable housing for families in Greenville.

71

Lillian Brock Flemming, vice mayor pro tem of Greenville, recently marked her 30th year as a member of City Council. She is a professional employment recruiter for the School District of Greenville County, a former member of the Furman board of trustees, and a recipient of the university's Richard Furman Baptist Heritage Award.

73

Alan Harvey of Avondale Estates, Ga., has been elected first vice president/president elect of the Georgia Council of Magistrate Court Judges. He is a member of the Judicial Council of Georgia.

James Popp, a member of the Ledyard (Conn.) High School Class of '69, is among the first six inductees into the Ledyard Football Hall of Fame. James played line-backer at Furman and was named to the All-Southern Conference team in 1972. He is a database administrator at the University of Virginia.

Jerry Wickliffe of Cordele, Ga., has been nominated to the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame as the first inductee for racquetball. He has won 14 state titles and 10 regional titles and has won every state age group title since age 25.

MARRIAGE: Kathy Norris Paige and Richard Lynton Griffin '74, June 18. Kathy is an ADEPT team leader with Greenville County Schools. Richard is the principal at Northwood Middle School.

74

Dianne Martin, an internist and infectious disease specialist at Washington Hospital in Fremont, Calif., was chosen the 2011 Best Doctor in Fremont by the readers of the weekly *Fremont Bulletin* and the daily *Argus* newspaper.

MARRIAGE: Bob Farnsworth and Mary Barret Gillum, July 23. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

75

Tom Faber recently accepted a faculty appointment to the Department of Neurology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine in Columbia. His research centers on novel approaches to mitigation of neuronal injury in acute traumatic brain injury.

Rich Wedemeyer won the 2011 Great Ideas for Teaching Award from the Oklahoma Association of Community Colleges. He is a professor of psychology at Rose State College in Oklahoma City.

76

Robert Harris of Durham, N.C., has received Patent No. 7,942,795 for a device that facilitates a variety of stretching and toning exercises.

Ann Harris Rybolt of Hixson, Tenn., has joined the Alexian Brothers Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly, which serves the senior citizens of Hamilton County.

77

NEXT REUNION IN 2012

Thomas E. Reynolds, an attorney with Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, LLC, in Birmingham, Ala., is included in the 2012 edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*.

79

Jay Cory became president and chief executive officer of the Phoenix (Ariz.) Rescue Mission on September 1. He had previously spent almost 17 years with Atlanta Union Mission.

80

MARRIAGE: Constance Peterson and Douglas Benson, March 26. Connie is director of recreation at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va.

81

Cynthia Milner completed an internship with *WNC Magazine* in Asheville, N.C., and now works as a freelance writer. She recently earned an associate degree in horticulture sciences from Haywood Community College. Col. **A. Kent Schweikert** of Burke, Va., has retired after 32 years in the U.S. Army. He commanded more than 19,200 soldiers during combat and reconstruction operations in Afghanistan and culminated his career as the executive to the assistant to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

83

Paul D. Foster of West Chester, Pa., has been named global head of consultant relations and managing director at Turner Investments, an employee-owned firm based in Berwyn, Pa. Paul was most recently with Delaware Investments, where he was vice president of consultant relations. He is a Charter Financial Analyst Charterholder and a member of the CFA Society of Philadelphia and the Association of Investment Management Sales Executives.

Cara Presseau is a lead system architect with Pegasystems in Cambridge, Mass. Pegasystems is a leader in business process management and a provider of customer relationship management solutions.

84

C. Stuart Mauney, an attorney with the Greenville firm of Gallivan, White & Boyd PA, has been designated as a state chair for the Council on Litigation Management. Its goals are to create a common interest in the representation by firms of companies, and to promote and further the highest standards of litigation management in pursuit of client defense.

BIRTH: Christopher and Balbeer

Sihra Bourne, twins, a son, Evan, and a daughter, Anya, May 20, 2010. Christopher recently retired from the U.S. Marine Corps. They live in Greenville.

86

James H. Mason has been promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Army Reserve. He lives in Raymond, Miss.

MARRIAGE: Leah Rogers Greene and Robert Chandler Foster, June 25. They live in Anderson, S.C.

88

Lance Richey is an associate professor of theology at the University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne, Ind.

91

Randall David Cook's one-act play "Third Finger, Left Hand" kicked off the 2011-12 Black Box Late Night Series at Trustus Theatre in Columbia, S.C., in September. The theatre also staged a reading of his full-length play "Southern Discomfort." Randall is a native of the Columbia area who now lives in New York City, where he is the resident playwright of Gotham Stage Company and a member of the Dramatists Guild.

Christopher "Topper" Doehring of Zionsville, Ind., vice president of medical affairs for Franciscan/St. Francis Hospital, has earned a master's degree in medical management from Carnegie Mellon University.

2011–12 ALUMNI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

J. Chris Brown '89, president; Leslie L. Smith '91, president-elect; Rebecca Ann Armacost '89, vice president; Clare Folio Morris '83, past president; Lynn Neely Bailey '78; N. Staten Bitting, Jr. '75; Frank W. Blackwell '90; Sidney R. Bland '59; Tracy Hulseley Bond '90; Kevin R. Bryant '85; O. Vernon Burton '69; Mary Lou Walch Cagle '69; Paul D. Goebel '63; Michael L. Guynn '91; Jimmie E. Harley '58; Charles D. Hardy '89; Shannon Scruby Henderson '75; Gail Laible Hughes '83; Gwinn Earle Kneeland '89; C. Todd Malo '95; Thomas A. Marshall '77; James N. Martin '79; Herman A. Matherson, Jr. '79; Andrew C. Medlyn '97; Matthew A. Miller '99; William P. Morrow, Jr. '54; Emmett L. Patrick '56; Scott W. Raeber '92; Gordon D. Seay '61; E. Leon Smith '61; George O. Short '54; Connie Gartrell Williams '74.

Ex-Officio and Other Members: Rod Smolla, president; Mike Gatchell '91, vice president for development; Tom Triplitt '76, director of Alumni Association; Tina Hayes Ballew '78, associate director of Alumni Association; Cal Hurst '04, president, Young Alumni Council; James Crockett '12, president, Student Alumni Council; Teddy Hess '12, president, Association of Furman Students; Joel Bloom '12, president, Senior Class.

MARRIAGE: Brandis Couch Timmons

and John Roberts, September 2. John serves as director of internal and electronic communications and as rugby coach at Furman. Brandi works with the university's Web development team.

BIRTH: John and Kathryn Gibson Taylor, a son, Charles James, July 6. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

92

NEXT REUNION IN 2012

Katie Clerkin Benston has been named chief program officer for Care Ring, a non-profit healthcare agency in Charlotte, N.C. She was previously with Hospice & Palliative Care-Charlotte region.

Nancy van Luyn Oglesby, deputy commonwealth's attorney for Goochland County in Virginia, was named the 2011 Distinguished Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Prosecutor by the state's Association of Commonwealth's Attorneys.

93

R. Kevin Johnson is a contributing editor to the four-volume *Encyclopedia of Christian Civilization*, for which he wrote articles related to worship, liturgy and music history. Kevin is a freelance author and a resident in pastoral care at Columbia University in New York City.

94

Greg and Susan Flowers Elliott have moved to the Philippines. Greg is the mining and metals operations manager for Fluor Corporation's Manila office.

Greg McGann (M.A.) of Lopatcong Township, N.J., has been named superintendent of Alpha School in Phillipsburg, N.J. Greg has 28 years of teaching and administrative experience, and was previously director of human resources in the Roxbury Township School District.

ADOPTION: Claude and Jewel Giesy McRoberts, a son, Isaac Luke, born February 27, 2010, in Daegu, South Korea; adopted March 22, 2011. They live in Millington, Tenn.

95

Glenn and Heather Willis Allen

have taken positions at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Heather is assistant professor of French, and Glenn is a biostatistician in the Health Innovation Program in the School of Medicine.

Nancy Fullbright of Savannah, Ga., has joined the corporate communications department of Gulfstream Aerospace. She previously worked with the Georgia Tech Research News and Publications Office.

Tracy Starling Yates completed her MBA with an emphasis in finance from Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Ariz. She and her husband, Steven, a U.S. Air Force officer, moved to Las Vegas, Nev., this summer. He is a member of the USAF Thunderbirds air demonstration squadron.

96

Amy Love has joined the South Carolina Department of Commerce as director of marketing and communications. She was formerly deputy executive director of New Carolina, South Carolina's Council on Competitiveness.

Gabriel Loving earned his Master of Worship Studies degree from the Robert E. Webber Institute of Worship Studies in Orange Park, Fla. Gabe is minister of music and worship at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tenn.

Paul D. Satterwhite, an attorney with the Springfield, Mo., office of Husch Blackwell, has been chosen by *Missouri Lawyers Weekly* as one of its 2011 Up & Coming award winners. The nominees had to be under 40 years of age or have less than 10 years experience in the field of law. They were selected for their positive influence in the legal industry and in their communities. **BIRTHS:** James Bishop and Karen Claussen '95, a daughter, Sophia Katherine, December 20, 2010, Knoxville, Tenn. Scott and Leanna Kelley Fuller, a son, Simon Kelley Fuller, December 9, 2010, Nashville, Tenn. Leanna is in her final year of a Ph.D. program in religion, psychology and culture at Vanderbilt University.

97

NEXT REUNION IN 2012

Jon A. Good has been named chief executive officer at NAI Earle Furman in Greenville, effective in January 2012. He has been director of the Greater Greenville Association of Realtors and was named Commercial Realtor of the Year in 2003.

Rolyn Quattlebaum Rollins is an administrative assistant for the Lilly Center for Vocational Reflection at Furman. Her husband, **Matt Rollins**, graduated from Gardner-Webb University in May with a Master of Divinity degree. He is activities minister and interim young adult minister at Greenville's First Baptist Church.

BIRTHS: Robert and Ashley Barr Causey, twins, a son, Robert Wayne III, and a daughter, Darby Ray, March 16. They live in Simpsonville, S.C. Ashley is a global studies teacher at Hillcrest High School. Michael Holbert and Paige Turner, a son, Ellis Martin Holbert, March 18. Paige is on the faculty in the Department of Endodontics at Virginia Commonwealth University and is an associate at Southside Endodontics in Colonial Heights.

98

Jamie Duncan has been called as senior pastor of East Pickens (S.C.) Baptist Church. He previously was pastor of Good Hope Church in Iva, S.C.

MARRIAGE: Seth Howard and Jane Dickerson, August 20. Seth is a public policy analyst and lobbyist for a nonprofit group in Seattle, Wash., and Jane works in the Department of Lab Medicine at the University of Washington Medical Center.

BIRTHS: Mark and Kiana Matthews Dezelon, a son, Evan Haykan Dezelon, May 18. They live in Cary, N.C. Kiana works for Hill-Rom as a lead usability business analyst. Mark works for SAS.

Chris and Katie Hankinson McGaha, a daughter, Annabelle Brooke, May 17, Birmingham, Ala.

Jeff and Lisa McGehee, a daughter, Elizabeth Austin McGehee, May 29, Greenville.

MAKING MUSIC AND MORE ON THE LAST FRONTIER.....

WHEN FOLKS IN

Anchorage, Alaska, and surrounding environs need their pianos tuned or rebuilt, they know the man to call: Dan McElrath.

When they want to listen to some smooth jazz riffs, they know what to dial up on their iPods: the Dan Mac Sextet, featuring Dan McElrath and friends.

And when they have a dream to play a grand piano atop a glacier while wearing — we are not making this up — a “Yeti”

suit, they now know who can help make it happen: Dan McElrath.

Since moving to Anchorage in the late 1980s, McElrath, a 1985 Furman graduate, has established a statewide name for himself as a businessman, composer and performer. He is a certified piano technician whose company, Alaska Piano, is the largest piano services business in Alaska. It has given him, he says, “the financial security to explore my art without boundaries.”

Which he has done with the Dan Mac Sextet. “We’re blessed to have the Air Force Band of the Pacific stationed in Anchorage,” he says, “and a number of exceptional musicians have retired in Alaska. They’ve provided a wealth of talented band members that I make use of on a regular basis.” Since 2005 he and his friends have toured the state, built a strong following and produced seven CDs, the most recent being “Ajazzka” and “An Alyeskan Christmas.”

But how does a Greenville boy, son of a jazz pianist, wind up tuning pianos in Alaska? Or arranging for a concert on an icy mountain?

McElrath says he learned the basics of piano tuning (and playing, by ear) from his father, and as a teenager he landed a job with a piano restorer. The work helped him develop his mechanical craftsmanship, although he was more interested in playing the piano than helping others play theirs. In the late 1970s he enrolled at North Greenville, then a junior college, but his sight-reading



Dan McElrath (far right) orchestrated a scenic, one-of-a-kind concert April 18 atop an Alaskan icefield.

COURTESY DAN MCELRATH

was so bad that, he says, “I was advised to find an occupation that didn’t involve playing the piano — which only made me more determined to succeed at it.”

Looking to improve his musicianship and earn money for his education, he decided to join the Air Force — and was able to do both. While stationed for three and a half years in Rapid City, S.D., he studied with James MacInnes, a Juilliard graduate. When McElrath left military service in 1982, he returned to Greenville with a wife and adopted daughter, and enrolled at Furman as a music education major.

After graduating he worked for a year at a church in California before being offered a similar position in Anchorage. The failure of his marriage, he says, required him to make a new career choice, so he called on old skills and began tuning pianos again.

His big break came in 1994, when high-profile pianist George Winston hired him as his personal technician during a three-week tour of Alaska. The gig helped McElrath establish his name, and he went on to do further study at Steinway and Yamaha factories. By 2000 his work was known throughout the state.

As for the concert on the glacier, McElrath helped make it happen last spring for Peter Halstead, a businessman and pianist. A representative of Halstead’s production company, Wind Over the Earth Productions, called to explain the idea, right down to the Yeti

suit. McElrath would be in charge of arranging for a helicopter, finding a grand piano, and ironing out such technical challenges as how to safely transport the 1,000-pound instrument to the edge of a snowy cliff.

It took a month and a half to finalize the plans, but on April 18, despite a few tense moments, a well-insured, well-protected Steinway grand traveled more than 40 miles into the Chugach Mountains, to a height of 6,000 feet. There, Halstead had his moment.

For McElrath, the project was another chapter in a musical odyssey that has brought him financial and artistic success on the Last Frontier. He says, “There’s always a tug between my business and creative side, but that tension gives my life balance, variety and energy. I joke that I tune pianos to support my addiction to playing, but both bring great rewards and often complement each other.

“Many communities couldn’t afford to bring in a performer like me, but there are always pianos to tune to augment the bottom line and make it more feasible. That way I not only leave them with a memorable musical experience, but a well-tuned piano.”

— JIM STEWART

Visit www.danmacjazz.net to sample the Dan Mac Sextet’s music. For more on the mountaintop adventure, visit www.alaskapiano.net and www.pianistlost.com.

99

BIRTHS: Dan and **Tara Byer-Parsons**, a daughter, Eva Catherine, August 3, 2010. They live in Charlotte, N.C., and are dermatologists with Charlotte Medical Clinic. Charles and **Sarah Thomas Clemmons**, a son, Noah Harmon, July 20, Greenville. **Jason '00** and **Stacey Hoffert Gilbert**, a son, Brady Jason, June 15, Birmingham, Ala. **Lee** and **Kate Hall Martini**, a son, Grayson James, April 15, Decatur, Ga.

00

Linsey Gwinn Ekebergh, senior audit manager at KPMG, LLP, was named to *Greenville Business Magazine's* 2011 list of the city's Best & Brightest 35 and Under. **BIRTHS:** **Jay** and **Robin Thomas DiBartolomeo**, a son, Russell Thomas, April 16, 2010. They live in Beckley, W.Va. Rob and **Jackie Smith Carson**, a daughter, Londyn Elaun, August 12. Jackie is women's basketball coach at Furman, and Rob works in the university's academic assistance center. **Brink** and Meg **Hinson**, a daughter, Adair Nanette, July 27. They live in West Columbia, S.C. **Michael** and Ellen **Myers**, a son, Parker Reid, June 15. They live in Colorado Springs, Colo., where Mike is program coordinator for Fostering Hope Foundation, a nonprofit that provides support for foster families. **Tyler** and Joy **Thigpen**, a son, Linus Livingston, August 26. Tyler co-founded the Chattahoochee Hills Charter School of southwest Atlanta in December 2010. He graduated from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government in May with a Mid-Career Master in Public Administration degree and is now head of Upper School at Mount Vernon Presbyterian School in Atlanta. Chad and **Cassie Floyd Tyner**, a daughter, Campbell Angenette, December 16, 2010. They live in Windsor, Ky.

01

Richard McAdams is manager of major gifts for the Heritage Foundation in the state of Florida. **Jesse Rice** is in his fourth year as a staff songwriter at Artist Revolution Publishing in Nashville, Tenn. He has written songs with Lady Antebellum, Randy Houser, Love & Theft and Shawn Mullins, among others. His songs play in regular rotation on Sirius/XM radio and have been featured on a number of television shows, including "Survivor." **Erin Kelley Sammis** has been named executive director of Pensacola (Fla.) Opera, where she has been director of development and marketing since May 2007. She is a regular grants panelist for the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs and was recognized in 2010 as a "Rising Star" by the *Pensacola Independent News*. **Lee B. Taylor III** has joined Carolina Cardiology Consultants, part of the Greenville Hospital System. His areas of specialization are general cardiology, echocardiography, nuclear cardiology and vascular imaging. **BIRTHS:** **Thomas** and **Rebecca Jackson Bandy**, a daughter, Adelaide, February 10. Thomas is opera and vocal coach at the Oberlin Conservatory in Ohio. He previously taught at the University of Oklahoma. Thomas and **Krista Miller Boeger**, a daughter, Aurelia Charlotte, November 19, 2010, Asheville, N.C. **Brian** (M.A. '00) and **Emily Eades Johnson**, a son, Dylan, August 25. They live in Mount Pleasant, S.C. Charles and **Kelly Jack Lodowski**, a son, Lucas Christian, April 26, Fort Lauderdale, Fla. Will and **Julie Taft Spearman**, a son, Miles Breck, January 1, Durham, N.C.

02
NEXT REUNION IN 2012
Megan Prewitt Koon of Greenville, an English teacher at St. Joseph Catholic School, received the 2011 Father Hayden Vaverek High School Excellence in Teaching

Award, which is given to a faculty member who demonstrates commitment and dedication and exemplifies the spirit of teaching in all walks of life.

BIRTHS: **David** and **Jenny Noble Block**, a son, Brayden Christopher, July 6. They live in Fountain Inn, S.C. **Joe '03** and **Teresa Leerssen Hoover**, a son, Owen Daniel, June 2. They live in Taylors, S.C. **Trey** and **Julie Dunson '01 Meredith**, twins, a son, Samuel Bradley, and a daughter, Virginia Carter, September 20, 2010, Greenville. **Andrew** and Gretchen **Snavely**, a son, Wilson Hawk, February 18, Charlotte, N.C.

03

Vaughn Bethell is founder and owner of Performance QSA, a personal training and fitness center in Greenville. He is a contributor to the book *3 Steps to Your Best Body in Record Time*, published recently by Celebrity Press. **Joyce Leigh Ferguson** earned a law degree from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law. **Rodney Johnson** and **Jeff Walker** were named to *Greenville Business Magazine's* 2011 list of the city's Best & Brightest 35 and Under. Rodney is principal of Lead Academy Public Charter School, and Jeff is a senior manager at Elliott Davis LLC accounting firm. **MARRIAGE:** **Katie Lewis** and Josh Chamberlain, August 13. They live in Eugene, Ore. Katie is an editorial coordinator for Oregon Social Learning Center and a freelance writer and editor. Josh owns J-Tea International, a tea company that specializes in Taiwanese oolongs. **BIRTHS:** **Jon** and Katie **Dumitru**, a son, Jonah Luke, April 29. Jon finished his residency in emergency medicine at Vanderbilt University and now works in Orlando, Fla.

Ryan and Katie **Gooch**, a son, Owen David, June 30. They live in Brentwood, Tenn. Roger and **Adelaide Sykes Williams**, a son, Brooks Kester, June 6. They live in Debordieu, S.C.

04

Meagan Anderson Longley earned a master's degree from the School of Social Work at the University of Texas and joined the staff of the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health as a mental health fellow. She assists program officers with activities related to the foundation's integrated health care and cultural and linguistic competency initiatives. **Latoya Michelle Mitchell** completed a postdoctoral fellowship in microbiology at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and has accepted a position as a medical writer for the *inScience* Communications group of Wolters Kluwer Pharmasciences in Yardley, Pa. **Justin A. Souma** of Macon, Ga., has joined the financial services team of LPL Financial Middle Georgia. **MARRIAGES:** **Evan Aldrich** and Elizabeth Chappell, April 30. They live in Redondo Beach, Calif. Evan is a broker with CRC Insurance Services. **Susanna Eiland** and Tomer Zvulun, May 28. They live in New York City. Tomer is on the directing staff of the Metropolitan Opera and is employed as a freelance stage director by the Seattle, Cincinnati and Atlanta operas, the Juilliard School, and Indiana University. **Ashley Long** and Chase Michaels, August 27. They live in Kernersville, N.C. **BIRTHS:** **Christopher '03** and **Kacy Herring Babcock**, a son, Hays Elijah, March 4, Clearwater, Fla. Ryan and **Carrie Parker Eaves**, a son, Noah David, August 7, Athens, Ga. **Matthew** and Leah **Heathman**, a daughter, Audrey Michelle, June 5. They live in Travelers Rest, S.C.

JOY OF COMPETITION PROPELS KATTOUF TO DUATHLON WORLD TITLE

GAIL PENNACHIO KATTOUF '95 says she has reached the point in her life where she isn't thinking about results when she races. No wonder, her competitors might retort. What's there to ponder when you're first all the time?

The former Furman distance-running standout, who completed her collegiate career with more than two dozen All-Southern Conference honors, filled the only empty spot in her trophy case in September when she won the 2011 International Triathlon

Union Duathlon World Championship in Dijon, Spain, leaving no doubt that she is the best the United States has to offer.

Kattouf finished three minutes ahead of her closest competitor to easily capture the 35-39 age division, which is impressive enough by itself but only a fraction of her true dominance. Her time of two hours, four minutes, 38 seconds in the 10-kilometer run/38.4K bike ride/5K run event was the fastest by any amateur woman, regardless of age or nationality, and would have placed her seventh among the "elites," or pros.

Nice, Kattouf admits, but not the point. "Any time you put your whole self into something, the reward is so personal," she says. "Most people don't realize that the personal satisfaction is what keeps me in it. It's definitely not the accolades."

While it's true that duathlon doesn't get much attention in a country ruled by triathlon, Kattouf could help change that. Her world championship comes on the heels of an amazing season in which she captured the U.S. short- and long-course championships in equally overwhelming fashion.

At the short-course nationals April 30 in Oro Valley, Ariz., her time of 1:37.00 over a 5K/35K/5K course turned heads because she finished more than two minutes ahead of any amateur in any division, and among the elite women only Germany's Angela Axmann (1:34.10) and U.S. star Nicole LaSelle (1:36.08) bested her. The story was similar a month earlier at the long-course national championships in Pelham, Ala. There, Kattouf dominated the 10K/47K/10K race in 3:14.42, crushing her nearest amateur competitor by nearly 10 minutes and finishing behind only two elites. (She elected not to compete in the long-course worlds, also held in September.)

She credits her husband, Rick, with reinvigorating her competitive fire when they met a few years ago. An accomplished triathlete and duathlete himself, Rick suggested she try cycling, and he was immediately amazed at her natural ability. In fact, so proficient has Gail become on the bike that it is now the key to her success, as evidenced by her unmatched 1:01:15 bike split in Spain. Other competitors simply can't make up the time during the runs. "When you get an individual that's that small but that powerful, it's like this light-weight Corvette with 700 horsepower," Rick says.

Of course, Gail's dominance begs the question: Why not go pro? Her time at the worlds was a minute faster than the top American elite competitor, who finished ninth overall, but the decision is not that simple.

On a practical level, in the elite division drafting is allowed during the cycling leg, which would erase much of her edge. And there are compelling personal reasons as well.

"I'm 38," she says. "I have a partially torn Achilles, which is a limiter, and if I stepped up to the pros I'd want to take my training up a notch, which I might not be able to do with the injury. Prize money would be really nice, but I think my motivation is correct at this point in my life.

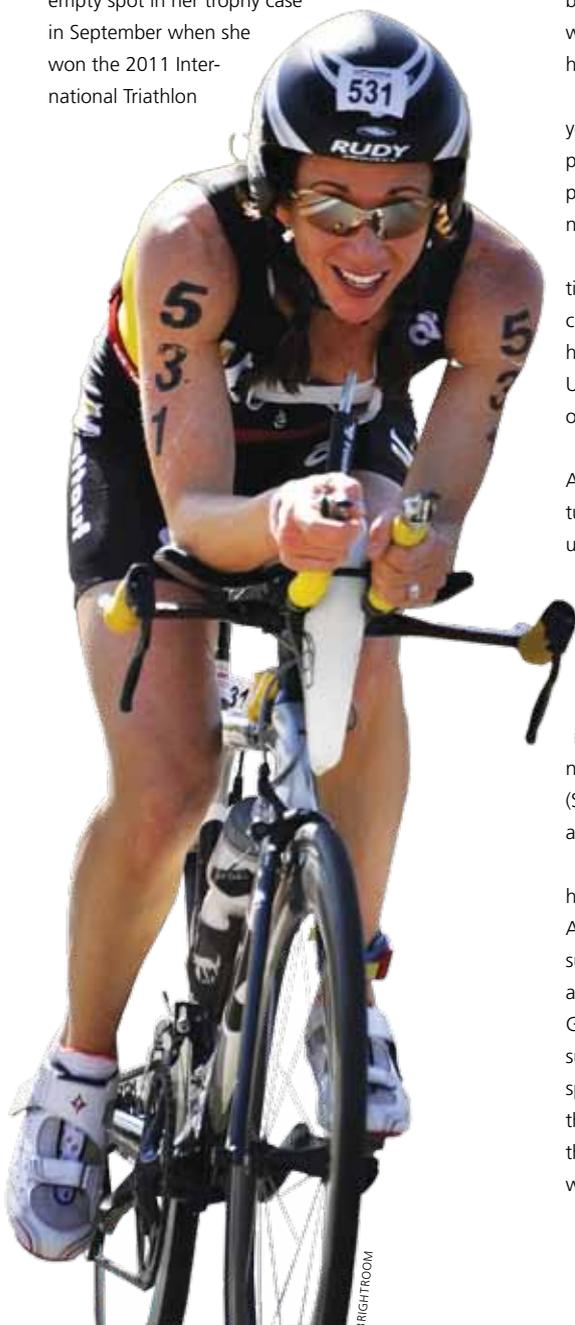
"I don't want that pressure. I ran competitively in college. I want to be able to enjoy it for what it is. If I don't feel like going on a training run on a given day, that's fine. There's not an expectation. Don't get me wrong — it would be really cool to be a pro athlete, but I'm pretty happy with where I am and what I've achieved."

Gail works part time as a nurse at North Greenville Hospital in Travelers Rest while also helping Rick with his online personal-training business, Team Kattouf (<http://teamkattouf.com>). Both jobs are rewarding, but Gail has no plans to give up her rather intense hobby. After all, she and Rick worry — mostly in jest — about what she would do with what he has called her "freaky" competitive side.

"Why am I so physically motivated? Maybe it's because I haven't learned another way. Maybe I should join a book club and outread everybody," she says with a laugh. "The sport is so small, it's like a family, and I love the idea that you can do it for life. My family members were like, how much longer are you going to try and race? And now my response is, as long as possible — as long as my body will allow me to race."

— RON WAGNER

The author, a 1993 graduate, is a freelance writer in Hendersonville, N.C.



BRIGHTROOM

05

Joe Waters has been named associate director of the Institute for Child Success in Greenville. He oversees communications, advocacy and public policy work. The institute is committed to fostering and sustaining a system that ensures the success of all children in South Carolina.

MARRIAGES: Jonathan Andrew Crane and Jessica Denise Ayers, May 14. They live in Kailua Kona, Hawaii.

Scott Andrew Taylor and **Lauren Elizabeth Wood**, August 13. They live in Boston, Mass., where Lauren is pursuing a Master of Science degree in food policy and applied nutrition at Tufts University. Scott holds a Master of Music degree in choral conducting and literature from the University of Colorado.

BIRTHS: Ian and **Cindy Whitcomb Bramhall**, a daughter, Zoey Elizabeth, May 9. They live in North Augusta, S.C., where Ian is director of guidance at Fox Creek High School and Cindy works part time as a tutor.

Andrew and Jane Stevener **Edson**, a daughter, Noelle Elizabeth, May 31. Andrew completed his J.D. degree from Southern Methodist University in December 2010, passed the Texas Bar, and is now with Strasburger & Price in Dallas.

Christopher and **Emily Reinhold Flury**, a son, James Dodd, October 13, 2010. Christopher is a consultant for Deloitte. They live in Roswell, Ga.

Jake '02 and **Jamie Woerner Roper**, a son, Henry Clay, August 19, 2010, Fort Rucker, Ala.

Mark and **Heather Bauguess Tucker**, a son, Henry Reid, June 23, Atlanta.

06

Mollye Crowell volunteered at Canaan Christian Community orphanage in Haiti for four weeks this summer, developing and teaching an art program called "heART for Haiti." She and a colleague took 11 suitcases of art supplies to the orphanage. Mollye teaches at Greenbrier Elementary in Greenville.

MARRIAGES: Caroline Gardener

and Timothy Foster, April 9. They live in Savannah, Ga.

Julie McGrath and Lee Roberts, June 25. They live in Chapel Hill, N.C., where she is a kindergarten teacher at Immaculata Catholic School.

07

NEXT REUNION IN 2012

Suzanne Prak Bostwick received a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing and works as a registered nurse in the neonatal intensive care unit of Spartanburg (S.C.) Regional Medical Center. Her husband, **Jay Bostwick**, is litigation director for Resurgent Capital Services in Greenville.

Colin Hagan, a student at Vermont Law School, has been selected a 2011 Switzer Environmental Fellow by the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation. The foundation awarded 20 fellowships of \$15,000 each to emerging environmental leaders who are pursuing graduate degrees. Colin is an editor of the *Vermont Law Review*, a member of the National Environmental Law Moot Court Team, and a research associate at the Institute for Energy and the Environment.

Amy Williams has received a NASA Earth and Space Science Fellowship worth \$30,000. The award will fund the completion of her Ph.D. work at the University of California-Davis, where she is doing research on the characterization of microbial processes in pyrite weathering in dry environments that are relevant to Mars. The NESSF awards are designed to ensure continued training of a highly qualified workforce in disciplines required to achieve NASA's scientific goals.

Cindy Youssef, manager of the Diversity Leadership Initiative with Furman's Riley Institute, was named to *Greenville Business Magazine's* 2011 list of the city's Best & Brightest 35 and Under.

MARRIAGES: Susan Braik and Will Taunton, July 30. They live in Upland, Calif., where Susan is a third-year dental student at Western University and Will is working toward a career as a physician's assistant.

Mark Pittman and Katie Adams, June 11.

Mark has started an emergency medicine residency at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.

Wilbur Roy Ravenell, Jr., and **Trina Small**, July 24, 2010. They live in Greenville.

Julianna Rue and Spencer Cagle, June 25. They live in Atlanta. She is a program coordinator for Children's Healthcare and he is an IT consultant with CDW.

Stuart Sarratt and **Elizabeth Travis**, August 13. Stu is an attorney in Greenville, and Elizabeth is a registered nurse at Easley (S.C.) Baptist Hospital and is pursuing her Doctorate of Nursing Practice from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Jamie Stephens and Eric Hiles, June 25. They earned their J.D. degrees from the University of Florida Levin College of Law and now practice law in Washington, D.C.

BIRTH: Ryan and **Laura Banks '08 Masse**, a daughter, Amelia Kaylynn, June 16. They live in Goose Creek, S.C. Laura earned a master's degree in health and exercise sport science from The Citadel, where she is a researcher and lab instructor. Ryan, a lieutenant junior grade in the U.S. Navy, is teaching at Naval Nuclear Power Training Command in Charleston until his active service ends in January.

08

Russell Dorn is an athletics media relations assistant at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. He recently earned a Master of Science degree from Georgia State University in sports administration.

Jimmy Hoke earned his Master of Divinity degree from the University of Chicago. While completing the degree, he was the ministry intern for the university's Rockefeller Chapel. He moved to Madison, N.J., in August to begin work toward a Ph.D. in New Testament and Early Christianity at Drew University's Graduate Division of Religion.

MARRIAGES: Richard Jacques and

Lauren Blair, October 2, 2010. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

Haley McKee Seymour and Vivek Paavan Vasuki, June 18. After completing an internship in internal medicine in Charlotte, N.C., Vivek is scheduled to begin a residency in ophthalmology in Richmond, Va. Haley holds a Master of Physician Assistant Studies degree from the Medical University of South Carolina.

Kerry Wooten and Daniel Mitchell, June 25. They live in Randleman, N.C.

09

Jade Lawson has accepted a position with the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as the campaign coordinator for Team in Training for the Coastal Area of South Carolina. She is also an adjunct professor of arts management at the College of Charleston.

MARRIAGE: Megan Christine Seasely and Joseph William Bender, March 12. They live in Charlotte, N.C.

10

Spencer Beamer has joined Erwin-Penland, a Greenville marketing firm, as a junior account executive. Previously he was chief operations officer at NB Innovation in Alpharetta, Ga. Singer/songwriter **Gwyn Fowler** of Myrtle Beach, S.C., has released a five-track album titled "Vespers." To learn more visit www.gwynfowler.bandcamp.com.

Having completed his year as a Compton Fellow in Guatemala, where he worked on reforestation projects in remote communities, **Cameron Tommey** has returned to Greenville and is working for the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities. Read his blog about his experiences at www.cameroninguatemala.wordpress.com.

MARRIAGES: Rebecca Lee and Scott Hassee, January 8. They live in Indian Springs, Ala.

T.J. Fleming and **Bethany Prince '11**, July 16. They live in Silver Spring, Md. Both are middle school teachers.

STEVENSON TAPPED FOR HOPKINS SOCIETY

ROGER STEVENSON '62, co-founder of the Greenwood (S.C.) Genetic Center, has been inducted into the Johns Hopkins University Society of Scholars.

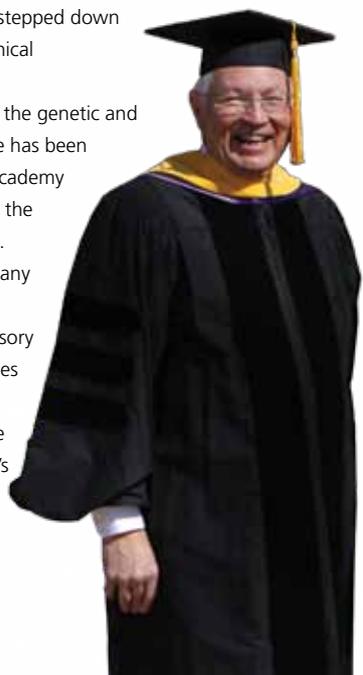
The Society of Scholars, the first of its kind in the nation, inducts former postdoctoral fellows, postdoctoral degree recipients, house staff, and junior or visiting faculty who served at least a year at Johns Hopkins and thereafter gained distinction in their fields of physical, biological, medical, social or engineering sciences, or in the humanities.

Stevenson, who was at Johns Hopkins from 1967 to 1972 as a pediatrics resident and a fellow in the divisions of metabolism and genetics, has made enormous contributions to patients and families with genetic disorders and to the field of genetic medicine, focusing largely on unraveling the causes of birth defects and developmental impairments.

In 1974 he co-founded the Greenwood Genetic Center and helped build it into an internationally respected nonprofit organization that advances medical genetics research and cares for families affected by genetic disease and birth defects. He recently stepped down as director but continues to pursue clinical and research work.

The author of several books about the genetic and environmental causes of disabilities, he has been appointed a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics and a Founding Fellow of the American College of Medical Genetics. He also has served on the boards of many governmental agencies and advisory groups, among them the Science Advisory Committee for Furman's Charles Townes Center for Science.

His long list of honors includes the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian award; Furman's Distinguished Alumni Award; and election to the Greenwood County Hall of Fame. Furman awarded him an honorary degree in 2010.



Amu Saaka signed to play professionally with Landstede of the Dutch Basketball League. He is the fourth Furman player in recent years to sign with the team.

Monty Turner has joined Global Location Strategies, a site selection and economic development consultancy in Greenville, as a business analyst.

DEATHS

Essie Pearl Inman Spearman '35, August 6, West Columbia, S.C.

Sara Welsh Hendricks Mattison '39, June 21, Clemson, S.C. She earned a master's degree from Clemson University and retired from Easley (S.C.) Junior High School.

Stephen Doar Mitchell '39, August 9, Greenville. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Afterward he became business manager of a theatre chain in Greenville. In 1971 he became office manager at Haynsworth Law Firm, where he remained for 30 years until retiring. He was secretary/treasurer of Faith Memorial Chapel in Cedar Mountain, N.C., for more than 50 years. He was a charter member of the Pleasantburg Rotary Club, chairman of the Rotary Club District International Student Committee, and secretary/treasurer of the Greenville Cotillion Club, which he also served as president in 2002-03. He helped sponsor 38 students from abroad to come to the States to study, and his interest in international students led him to establish the Stephen D. Mitchell Scholarship Fund at Furman.

Carl Denyse Bryant Stanley '39, August 15, Greenville. She was an employee of the Greenville Hospital System for nearly 30 years and served on the faculty of the School of Nursing. She was a president of the Greenville County Medical Auxiliary and was an honorary member of the Alumni Association of the Greenville General Hospital School of Nursing. After the School of Nursing closed, she served in the Greenville Memorial Hospital Staff Development Department and was interim coordinator of staff services. In retirement she volunteered with Project Host Soup Kitchen

and was a member of the board of Senior Action and of the Advisory Board for Allied Health of Greenville Technical College.

Jane Allison Brennand '41, August 3, San Antonio, Texas. Before moving to San Antonio she lived in New Orleans, where she was active in such groups as Saint Anna's Home, Daughters of the American Revolution, Colonial Dames and McGehee School. She was a historian and genealogist and author of a book on her family's history.

J. Wright Horton '42, July 20, Greenville. After being awarded the Bradshaw-Feaster Medal for General Excellence at Furman, he served with the Marine Corps during World War II. He received the Silver Star for gallantry on Guadalcanal and attained the rank of colonel before retiring from the Marine Corps Reserve. He went on to complete Harvard Law School and was an attorney in Greenville until his retirement. He was a trustee of the Greenville County School District and was director and president of Greenville Family and Children's Services. He was on the board of the Greenville Mental Health Clinic, the Salvation Army, the Greenville County Foundation and the United Fund of Greenville County, which he served as president in 1959. In 1981 he was president of the Greenville County Bar.

Cleo Morris Ward, Jr. '42, August 26, Darlington, S.C. C.M. was president of the Darlington Roller Mill for many years and retired as a teacher from the Darlington County School District. He was a past president of the Darlington Kiwanis Club and a member of the board of First Federal Savings and Loan and the Darlington board of C&S National Bank. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II.

Elisabeth Gray Scurry Charles '46, September 5, Greenwood, S.C. After graduating from Furman, Gray attended Traphagen School of Design in New York City. She was active in her church and was a member of the Ivy Garden Club, Danse de Noel, Daughters of the American Revolution and Greenwood Woman's Club.

11

Omicron Delta Kappa, the national collegiate leadership honor society, selected **Shannon Cantwell** as one of three General Russell E. Dougherty National Leader of the Year award winners for 2011. Shannon is a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar

and is pursuing a master's in development practice from Trinity College in Ireland.

Kristin Lyles has joined Crawford Strategy, a strategic solutions company in Greenville, as a junior account executive.

Philip Mabry is a concierge banker with Avenue Bank of Nashville, Tenn.

Julia Wright Stark '46, August 30, San Antonio, Texas. She worked for a time as a social worker.

Ruth Tysinger Whitlock '46, July 9, Clemson, S.C. She worked for First National Bank in Greenville and was a church organist, accompanist, seamstress and storyteller.

Waco Franklin Childers, Jr. '47, August 6, Greenville. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II and received the Purple Heart. He was founder of Waco F. Childers, Jr., Inc., and was the benefactor of several major organizations. He was a member of American Legion Post No. 3 and was national president of the American Humane Society.

Patricia Hadden Senn '49, August 13, Seneca, S.C. She was a longtime teacher in Oconee County schools.

Thomas Edward Dyar '50, July 1, Easley, S.C. He was pastor of Baptist churches in South Carolina, North Carolina and Tennessee for more than 60 years, retiring from Parkwood Baptist in Greenville in 1991. He served with the U.S. Army in the European Theater.

Geraldine Holland Pickens '50, August 4, Greenville. She worked in the Greenville Hospital System for many years before retiring in 1993.

Olin C. Scott '50, June 27, West Columbia, S.C. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and retired from the Federal Aviation Administration after 27 years as an air traffic controller.

Garrett A. Smathers '52, June 7, Waynesville, N.C. He was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II, serving with a tank destroyer division in Normandy. He held advanced degrees from Western Carolina University and the University of Hawaii. Early in his career he was a principal, teacher and coach at Bethel High School, and a chemistry instructor at Asheville-Biltmore Junior College. He went on to work as a naturalist for North Carolina's Blue Ridge Parkway, Lava Beds National Monument in California, and the National Park Service in Hawaii. He was a scientist for the National Park Services and National Space Technology Laboratories, and for science centers in Denver,

Colo., St. Louis, Mo., and Seattle, Wash. He was also an ecological instructor at the Grand Canyon and a research biologist and supervisory naturalist at the University of Hawaii. In 1974 he received the Western Carolina University Distinguished Alumni Service Award for scientific achievement and administration of National Park Service research. From 1984 to 1989 he was a member of the N.C. State Environmental Management Commission. He received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine for his service to the state of North Carolina, and in 1999 he was named Canton Paper Town Person of the Year.

Robert Edward Davis, Jr. '54, June 15, Camden, S.C. He earned his medical degree from the University of South Carolina School of Medicine. He interned at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, was base surgeon at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas, and completed his surgical residency at Greenville General Hospital, where he was chief surgical resident. He practiced general surgery in Camden for 30 years, during which time he was chief of staff at Kershaw County Memorial Hospital. He was board certified and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He was a U.S. Air Force veteran and a member of the American Legion.

Allen Hawkins Campbell, Jr. '57, July 22, Spartanburg, S.C. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and recipient of the Purple Heart. He enjoyed a lengthy career with the South Carolina Tax Commission as an investigator in the Criminal Investigations Department.

Ernestine White Howard '57, September 7, Simpsonville, S.C. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the United Daughters of the Confederacy. She volunteered with Meals on Wheels and enjoyed genealogy research.

Paul Martin Sullivan, Jr. '57, July 17, Brunswick, Ga. After graduating from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, he served churches in four South Carolina towns. He held numerous positions in

Baptist associations and was a member of the board of directors for Southern Mutual Church Insurance Company.

Amaryllis Vaughn Linderman, M.S. '58, June 16, Huntersville, N.C. Amy retired as an elementary school teacher.

Charlotte A. McElveen '60, August 15, Florence, S.C. She earned her master's degree in reading instruction from Georgia State University and an additional 30 hours beyond that in supervision and administration from the University of South Carolina. After teaching in the Atlanta area in the 1960s and early 1970s, she moved to Florence to work with District 1 schools as a language arts coordinator for grades 4-8. In 1987 she became director of federal programs for the district, and during the next four years she began a Title 1 Parent Training Program, coordinated with the school district and federal government to purchase the Parent Center building in Florence, and launched a Title 1 program for 3-year-olds to give them an early start in developmental activities.

Grace Aline Johnson Edwards '61, September 1, Tryon, N.C.

Marcus Barak Sanders '61, August 18, Walhalla, S.C. He served in the U.S. Navy and U.S. Air Force and later retired from the South Carolina Army National Guard. He was also retired from Schlumberger, an oilfield service company, where he worked for 26 years.

Tony Etnyre '62, June 12, Columbus, Ind. He spent the majority of his career in the hotel industry, most recently serving as owner/operator of the Quality Inn in Seymour, Ind., and the Holiday Inn in Gallipolis, Ohio. He was a member of Kiwanis, Rotary International, and the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association.

John Marlow Ryan '62, July 19, 2010, Ridgeland, S.C. After retiring from the U.S. Postal Service, "Cookie" worked with Sauls Funeral Home in Bluffton, S.C.

Major Van McCarty, M.A. '65, August 20, Saluda, S.C. He was a teacher, coach and principal in South Carolina schools

for many years. He was superintendent of Saluda County School District 1 from 1975 to 1976 and retired as principal of Irmo High in 1986. He was selected Outstanding Principal of the Year by the South Carolina School Counselor Association.

John Kelly Talkington, Jr. '68, June 22, Anderson, S.C. A football player at Furman, he was a certified public accountant in Anderson for more than 40 years.

Marilyn Jobe Hendricks '71, August 8, Easley. She was a retired school teacher, piano teacher and director of First Baptist Church of Easley Child Development Center.

Smith Griffin Hendricks, Jr. '72, July 12, Easley, S.C. He was former vice president of Piedmont Plush Mills and owner of K&M Fabrics. He served as Pickens County Elections Commissioner and Planning Commissioner and was a U.S. Army veteran.

Cynthia Lawrence Royards Huey '79, June 16, Greenville. She worked as an accounting supervisor with the water system in Spartanburg, S.C.

William Dallas Holland '96, August 25, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. He was employed by United Dominion Industries in Charlotte, N.C., and London, England, before going to graduate school. He earned his MBA from Indiana University and worked in the financial industry in Baltimore, New York and Chicago before moving to Florida to help manage his family's business.

Louisa Burns Cartledge, July 21, Black Mountain, N.C. She was a reference librarian at Furman from 1972 to 1981. The director's office in the James B. Duke Library is named in her honor. She was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Virginia and initially worked with the American Red Cross and with several theatre groups, including a year in Stockholm, Sweden, where she helped to establish an English-speaking theatre. She went on to teach English, drama and history at several secondary schools before earning her Master of Library Science degree from the University of North Carolina.